

COUNTRY RISK SUMMARIES

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Report for the week ending June 29th, 2025.

Latest Updates: Colombia, India, Iran, Iraq, Israel, Kenya, Lebanon, Mexico, Nigeria, Pakistan, Philippines, Russia, South Sudan, Sudan, Syria, Ukraine, and Venezuela.

- **Colombia:** On June 23, floods and landslides hit areas outside Medellín, Antioquia department.
- **Colombia:** On June 25, deadly clashes between soldiers and ELN rebels were reported in Tame municipality, Arauca department.
- **India:** On June 23, Air India ceases flights to the Middle East, and other regions.
- **India:** On June 25, deadly flash flooding was reported near Dharamshala, Himachal Pradesh state.
- **India:** On June 25, a deadly encounter involving Naxalite rebels was reported in Narayanagarh district, Chhattisgarh state.
- **Iran:** On June 23, explosions were heard in Karaj, Alborz province.
- **Iran:** On June 23, the Irish Embassy in Tehran was closed until further notice.
- **Iran:** On June 24, President Trump announced the Iran-Israel ceasefire deal.
- **Iran:** On June 24, Azerbaijan Airlines suspended flights between Israel, Iran and Azerbaijan until June 30.
- **Iraq:** On June 24, a drone strike targeted the Camp Taji in Baghdad governorate.
- **Israel:** On June 23, missile attacks from Iran triggered rocket sirens in Israel.
- **Israel:** On June 24, the Iranian military issued evacuation warnings in Tel Aviv's Ramat Gan.
- **Israel:** On June 24, Israeli forces shot down Iranian drones over Golan Heights.
- **Kenya:** On June 23, deadly bandit attacks were reported in Napeitom, Turkana County.
- **Lebanon:** On June 23, Israeli airstrikes were reported across Nabatieh and South governorates.
- **Lebanon:** On June 24, a deadly Israeli drone strike was reported in Kfar Dajjal, Nabatieh governorate.

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- **Mexico**: On June 24, casualties were reported following a shooting in Irapuato, Guanajuato state.
- **Mexico**: On June 24, heavy flooding triggered disruptions in and around Guadalajara, Jalisco.
- **Nigeria**: On June 24, bandit attacks were reported in Niger and Zamfara states.
- **Nigeria**: On June 24, deadly clashes erupted between soldiers and bandits in Mariga LGA, Niger state.
- **Pakistan**: On June 24, a deadly security operation targeted militants in South Waziristan district, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province.
- **Philippines**: On June 24, a strong offshore earthquake hit the east of Baganga municipality, Davao region.
- **Russia**: On June 24, safety concerns disrupted flights at airports in Samara and Ulyanovsk oblasts.
- **South Sudan**: On June 23, SSPDF airstrikes were reported in Panyijar County, Unity state.
- **Sudan**: On June 25, deadly RSF attacks targeted civilians near Kazgeil, North Kordofan state.
- **Syria**: On June 24, Israeli airstrikes targeted Mezzeh district, Damascus.
- **Ukraine**: On June 23, a Russian drone attack caused injuries and damage in Kyiv.
- **Venezuela**: On June 25, torrential rainfall triggered disruptions in Western states.

Please be aware System Risk Management has asked all members to prohibit travel to extreme risk countries and regions. Please reference memorandum from the Chancellor regarding procedures relating to international travel to be followed by all System members found at this link:

<http://www.tamus.edu/assets/files/safety/pdf/InternationalTraveltoHighRiskCountries.pdf>

Should you have any questions, please get in touch with me directly. Thank you.

Charles A. Longoria, CRM | Director

System Risk Management

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COUNTRY TRAVEL ADVISORY LIST

Any travel to the below listed Extreme Risk countries or countries with an Extreme Risk region requires an International Travel Questionnaire submission to System Risk Management for review.



EXTREME RISK COUNTRIES

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------|
| 1) Afghanistan | 12) Libya |
| 2) Bangladesh | 13) Mali |
| 3) Belarus | 14) North Korea |
| 4) Burkina Faso | 15) Russia |
| 5) Burma (Myanmar) | 16) Somalia |
| 6) Central African Republic (CAR) | 17) South Sudan |
| 7) Haiti | 18) Sudan |
| 8) Iran | 19) Syria |
| 9) Iraq | 20) Ukraine |
| 10) Israel | 21) Venezuela |
| 11) Lebanon | 22) Yemen |



HIGH RISK COUNTRIES

- | | |
|---|----------------------|
| 1) Algeria | 14) Honduras |
| 2) Azerbaijan | 15) India |
| 3) Burundi | 16) Kenya |
| 4) Cameroon | 17) Mauritania |
| 5) Chad | 18) Mexico |
| 6) Colombia | 19) Niger |
| 7) Congo (Republic of) | 20) Nigeria |
| 8) Cuba | 21) Pakistan |
| 9) Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) | 22) Panama |
| 10) Ecuador | 23) Papua New Guinea |
| 11) Egypt | 24) Philippines |
| 12) Eritrea | 25) Saudi Arabia |
| 13) Ethiopia | 26) Tunisia |
| | 27) Turkey |

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COUNTRY TRAVEL ADVISORY DETAILS BY RISK LEVEL



EXTREME RISK COUNTRIES



Afghanistan

Risk Level: **Extreme**

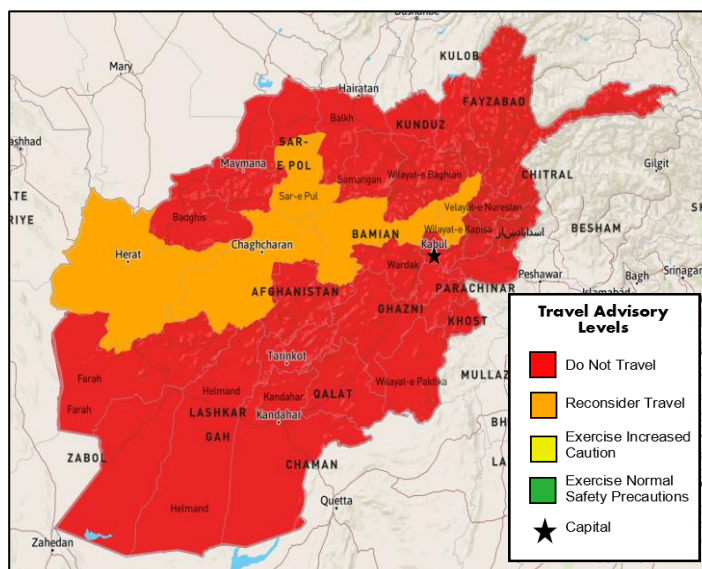
Country Overview:

It is advised that all travel to Afghanistan be avoided. Travel is unsafe due to the unstable security situation involving armed conflict, terrorism, crime, and civil unrest. There is an extreme risk to personal safety and security because of widespread military operations, terrorism, and insurgent attacks, and high levels of kidnappings, hostage-taking, suicide bombings, landmines, and vehicle-borne or other improvised explosive devices. Due to extensive warlordism and lawlessness, Afghanistan has long been beset by weak governance in many of its regions.

It is illegal to bring any foreign currency into Afghanistan. There are strict rules about the goods you can take into or out of Afghanistan. You must declare anything prohibited or subject to tax or duty.

The Taliban launched a sweeping offensive against government forces, resulting in the complete collapse of the Afghan Government following the US-led withdrawal of foreign troops from the country. The U.S. negotiated a deal with the Taliban, which required the withdrawal of all foreign forces. The agreement ended the two decades of occupation by the U.S. and other foreign countries. With the Taliban's control of the country virtually unopposed, they have been swift to reverse reforms and are on a path of reinstating previously held policies.

The U.S. Embassy in Kabul suspended operations on August 31, 2021. While the U.S. government has withdrawn its personnel from Kabul, it continues to assist U.S. citizens and their families in Afghanistan from Doha, Qatar



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Bangladesh

Risk Level: **Extreme**

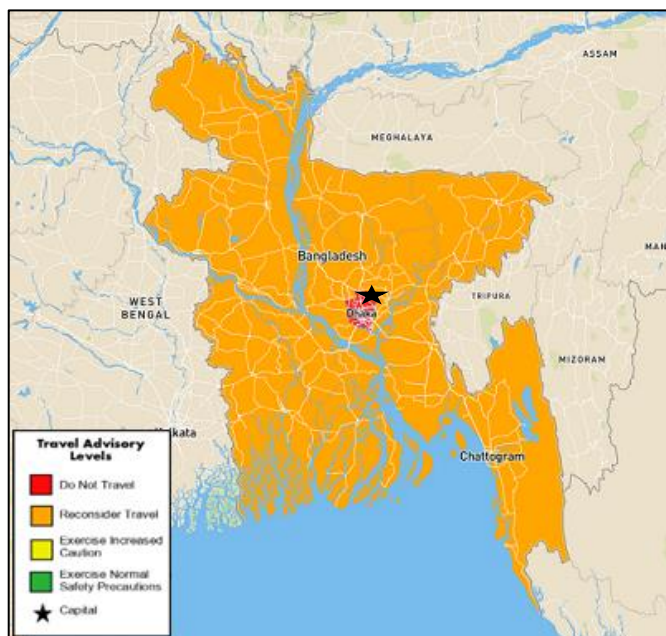
Country Overview:

Travelers should avoid traveling to Bangladesh due to the recent civil unrest in Dhaka. The country was gripped by weeks of anti-government protests caused by university student protests over civil service job quotas. As the protests grew, clashes between police and protestors resulted in over 300 deaths. Attempts to quell the protests failed, leading to the resignation of former Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina on August 5, 2024. Professor Muhammad Yunus was appointed Chief Advisor to serve as the caretaker government's Prime Minister.

Political rallies and demonstrations may occur, leading to clashes with law enforcement. Arson, violence, and vandalism can happen in towns and cities nationwide. Attacks against property and public transport are possible.

Travelers should be aware of petty crimes such as pickpocketing in crowded areas. Crimes such as muggings, burglaries, assaults, and illegal drug trafficking constitute most of the criminal activity in Bangladesh's major cities. These crimes tend to be situational, based on time and location.

Terrorist attacks can occur with little or no warning, targeting public areas such as tourist destinations, transportation hubs, shopping malls, restaurants, places of worship, school campuses, and government facilities. Due to security concerns, U.S. Embassy personnel in Bangladesh are subject to some movement and travel restrictions. The U.S. government may have limited ability to provide emergency services to U.S. citizens in Bangladesh due to these travel restrictions, a lack of infrastructure, and limited local emergency response resources.



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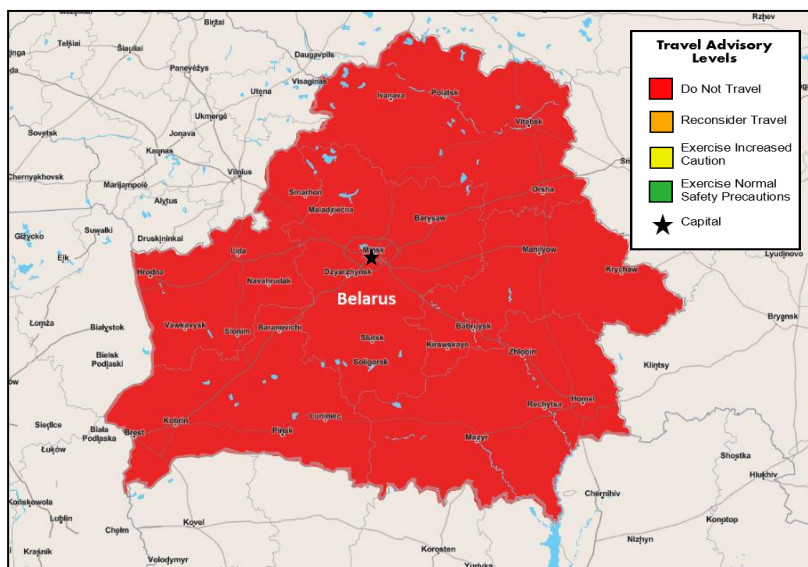
Belarus

Risk Level: **Extreme**

Country Overview:

The security situation in Belarus is hazardous due to ongoing Russian military operations in Belarus and Russian military operations in Ukraine. Travel to Belarus is not advised due to the risk of arbitrary enforcement of laws, the Russian military attack on Ukraine, and Russian military operations.

The U.S. Embassy in Belarus has closed, and all U.S. consular services have been suspended. All U.S. government employees have departed the country. It is advised to exercise extreme caution and vigilance and avoid all public demonstrations. Belarusian authorities are known to detain individuals suspected of affiliations with opposition parties or participation in political protests. The Belarusian Government has arrested thousands of individuals, and Belarusian authorities have targeted independent and foreign media. It forced a commercial aircraft transiting Belarusian airspace to stop and land to arrest an opposition journalist. Belarus does not recognize dual nationality; authorities consider individuals with a Belarusian passport to be Belarusian.



The Belarusian Government supports Russia's attack on Ukraine, with Russian military operations taking place in Belarus and the country facilitating the launch of Russian missile strikes into Ukraine. There is a heightened threat of conflict ensuing within Belarusian borders. The situation remains unpredictable and could escalate without warning. The following areas are considered exceptionally high risk due to the presence of Russian and Belarusian military forces: Yelsk, Rechitsa, Mazyr, Gomel, Brest, Baranovichi, and Asipovichy.

It is illegal to photograph any military activity or establishments. Although the situation is calm throughout the rest of the country and Minsk, it could change quickly and without warning. Some border crossings into Poland have been closed to vehicles, and more movement restrictions can be implemented at short notice, especially in the border regions.

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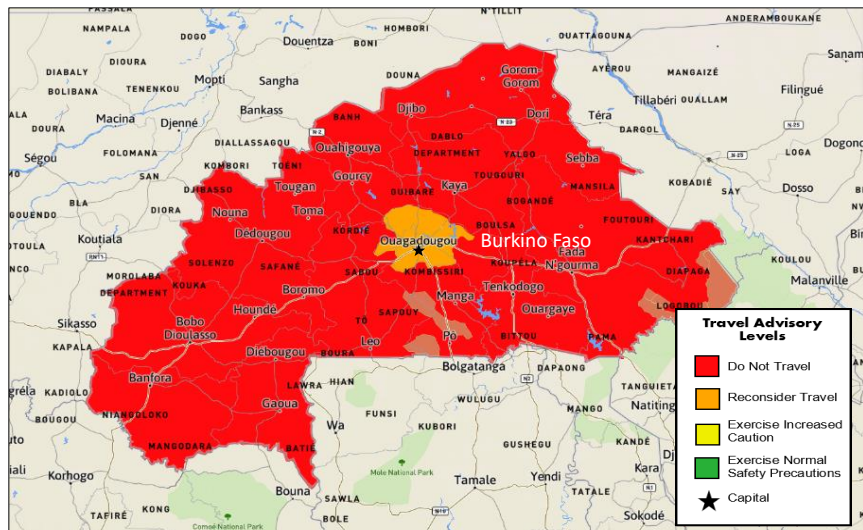
Burkina Faso

Risk Level: **Extreme**

Country Overview:

The security situation in Burkina Faso is hazardous, with some parts of the country being extremely unsafe. It is advised to avoid all travel to Burkina Faso due to the risk of terrorism and crime. There is a high risk to personal safety and security because of terrorist activity and common violent crimes.

Burkina Faso's military Government was dissolved in September 2022, with the constitution and transitional charter suspended.



This coup stems from the perceived failure of the now-deposed leaders to suppress attacks from armed groups associated with ISIL (ISIS) and al-Qaeda. It is also the second coup in a year in the West African nation, following the overthrow of Roch Kabore in January 2022.

Westerners have been abducted and killed in Burkina Faso and the greater Sahel region. Kidnapping is still a serious concern throughout Burkina Faso, especially in Ouagadougou and the larger Sahel region. Additionally, there is a chance that terrorist organizations could enter Burkina Faso through the northern border with Niger and the border from Mali to carry out kidnapping attacks, particularly in Ouagadougou.

It is advised to avoid the north and the southeast border with Benin, as these areas are active military zones. Civilians found in these areas risk getting caught up in ongoing military operations.

Burkina Faso faces a significant security threat from terrorist groups, including Jama'a Nusrat ul-Islam wa al-Muslimin (JNIM) and the Islamic State. Attacks, particularly in the capital, Ouagadougou, often target locations frequented by foreign nationals. The risk is heightened during festivals and public holidays. Frequent attacks also occur near the borders with Mali, Niger, and Côte d'Ivoire, as well as in the eastern region. Travelers should remain vigilant and follow the guidance of local authorities.

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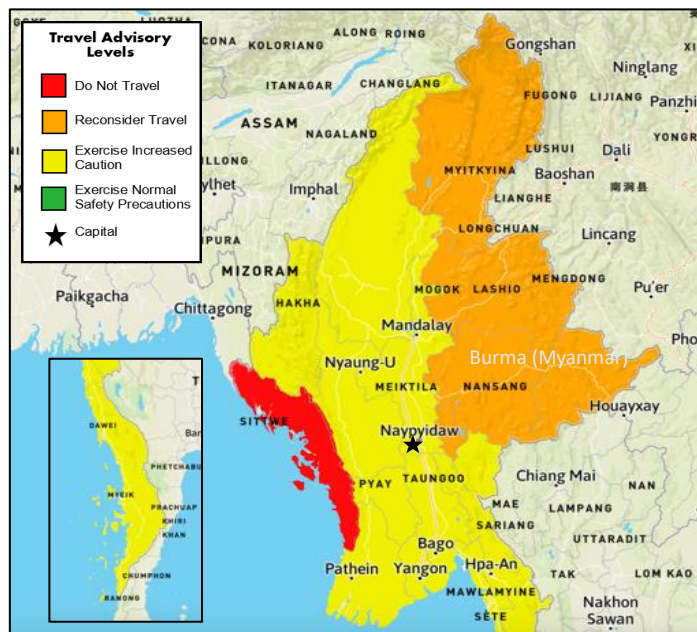
Burma (Myanmar)

Risk Level: **Extreme**

Country Overview:

The security situation in some parts of Myanmar is hazardous, with specific areas extremely unsafe. Due to ongoing civil unrest and armed conflict, it is advised against traveling to Myanmar. There is a high risk to personal safety and security because of fighting between the Myanmar military and various ethnic armed groups and militia forces.

Avoiding travel to Rakhine State due to civil unrest and armed conflict is advised. Trip to Chin, Kayah, Kachin, and Shan State townships is not recommended due to civil unrest and armed conflict. Travelers should avoid areas bordering China, Laos, Thailand, Bangladesh, and India.



On February 1, 2021, Myanmar's military detained former State Counsellor Aung San Suu Kyi and other senior leaders over unsubstantiated claims of election fraud. Suu Kyi was subsequently sentenced to 33 years in prison. Since the coup, daily pro- and anti-military rallies in Yangon and Mandalay have frequently escalated into violence, with security forces firing live ammunition at protesters. Attacks targeting military personnel and installations, such as checkpoints, are common and sometimes affect civilians and foreign nationals in hotels, restaurants, and residential areas. In response to the coup, rebel groups in northern Myanmar have united against the military junta, seizing control of towns and territories. Despite superior equipment and air support, the military has struggled to suppress the rebels. Cross-border artillery fire has also impacted Chinese cities, injuring Chinese citizens. Travel to Myanmar is strongly discouraged due to ongoing violence and instability.

It is advised to avoid all but essential travel to the east of the Yangon-Mandalay Expressway in the Bago region and Rakhine state.

A state of emergency remains in place across Myanmar. The security situation is unpredictable and liable to change without notice, and the authorities can restrict access to any area at any time.

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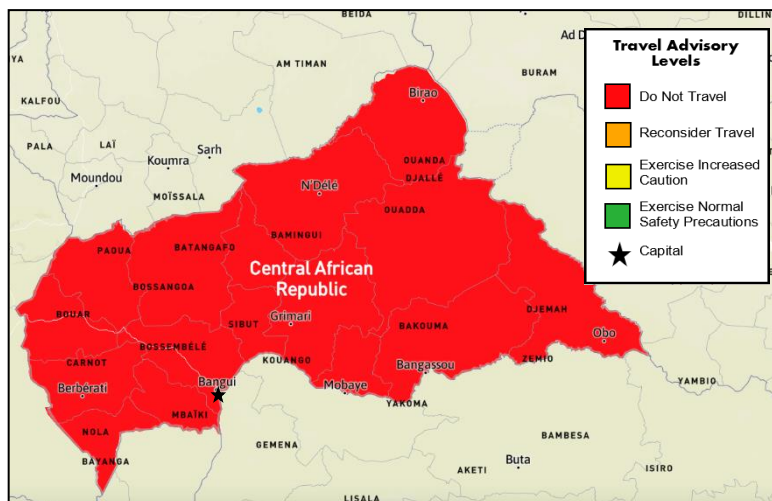


Central African Republic

Risk Level: **Extreme**

Country Overview:

The security situation in the Central African Republic (CAR) is perilous, and all travel is strongly advised against due to civil unrest, crime, and extreme risk to personal safety. Sectarian violence by armed groups, along with everyday criminal activities, poses significant threats such as armed robbery, aggravated battery, homicide, looting, kidnapping, and carjacking incidents, particularly outside the capital.



Although there are no specific threats targeting U.S. citizens, civil unrest, demonstrations, and post-election violence remain ongoing risks. The likelihood of violent attacks, including carjackings, is high with little notice. Armed conflict persists in the north and east; government services are limited outside Bangui. There are poor road conditions, especially in the rainy season, with few paved roads outside Bangui. Armed patrols by various groups, including government forces and militias, are a frequent occurrence.

Exercise caution in outlying areas where theft and robbery are common, often perpetrated by armed gangs. Take precautions by seeking professional security advice and using trusted transport to enhance your safety.

Avoid traveling after dark for essential travel to rural areas, and move only in a convoy with a security escort. A national curfew is in place from 10 p.m. to 5 a.m., and compliance with government instructions is crucial. Additionally, there are reports of a hemorrhagic fever outbreak in CAR, resulting in four deaths, particularly in Kabo, Ouham-Fafa Prefecture.

Areas bordering the Democratic Republic of Congo are at risk of Ebola outbreaks, warranting increased caution when traveling to these regions.

Except for the capital, Bangui, it is advised to avoid traveling to any part of the Central African Republic, including the regions of Bimbo, Begoua, and Coline.

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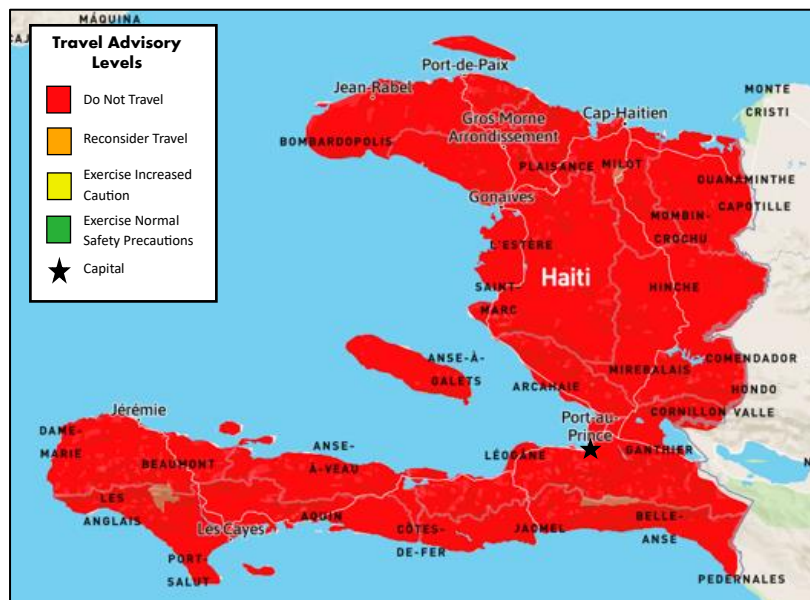
Haiti

Risk Level: **Extreme**

Country Overview:

The security situation in Haiti is unstable and extremely dangerous. Avoiding travel to Haiti is advised due to civil unrest and crime. There is a high risk to personal safety and security due to the widespread violent and unpredictable demonstrations in Port-au-Prince and elsewhere in the country.

Severe fuel shortages plague the country, impacting essential service provisions countrywide. Medical services, electricity, and communications have been heavily affected.



Gang conflict has intensified in the capital, with heavily armed gangs seizing city sections from government authority, attacking government buildings, and calling for the resignation of the prime minister.

Kidnappings in the city are rising as gangs target people going to and from work. Criminal groups often use firearms and extreme violence to kidnap victims. The country is also experiencing an acute food shortage, with nearly half the country's population facing hunger and a recent surge in cholera. Travelers are advised to monitor local news.

While the land border between Haiti and the Dominican Republic remains shut, the Dominican Government has declared the resumption of air travel between the two countries on October 30. The situation concerning the border can change suddenly, and it is advisable to monitor local media for any updates.

It is advised to avoid all travel to Haiti, mainly to avoid the Bel Air, Carrefour, Cité Soleil, and Martissant neighborhoods in Port-au-Prince. Do not drive through roadblocks; if you encounter one, turn around and get to a safe area. Travelers are sometimes followed, violently assaulted and robbed shortly after leaving Port-au-Prince. The U.S. Embassy requires personnel to use official transportation to and from the airport.

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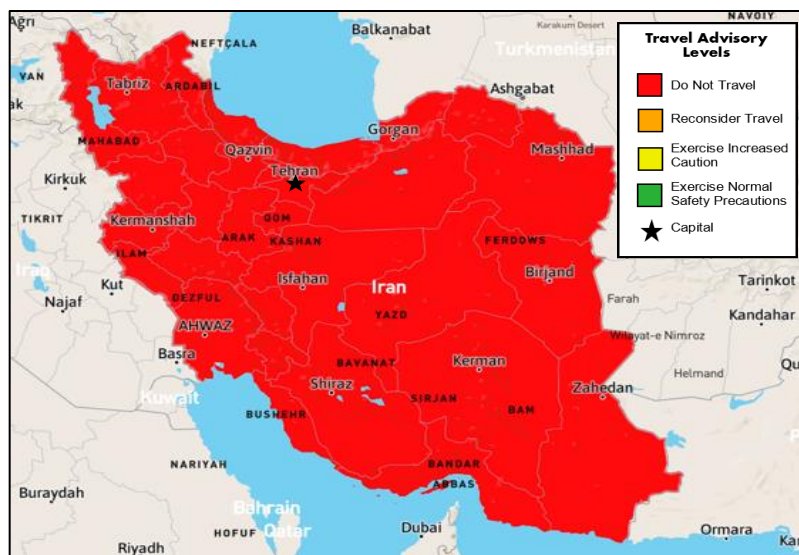
Iran

Risk Level: **Extreme**

Country Overview:

The security situation in Iran is hazardous, with specific parts of the country being extremely unsafe. Travel to Iran is not advised due to the risk of arbitrary arrest and detention.

U.S. citizens in Iran face the risk of kidnapping, arrest, and unjust detention on various charges, particularly dual-national Iranian Americans. These charges include espionage and posing a threat to national security. Iranian authorities often delay consular access and consistently deny it to dual U.S.-Iranian citizens. The U.S. government lacks diplomatic relations with Iran, limiting its ability to provide emergency services. Foreign nationals in Iran are advised to carefully consider the risks, as detention can result in prolonged imprisonment.



Israel launched targeted strikes on Iranian military and nuclear sites, killing senior officials. These attacks have struck cities in Iran, leading to civilian casualties. On June 22nd, the U.S. launched an attack on Iran's nuclear sites, dropping heavy ordnance to destroy the facilities deep underground. Iran responded with a missile attack on a U.S. base in Qatar. Subsequently, Israel and Iran have declared a ceasefire. Due to the volatile situation, travel to Iran is strongly discouraged, and travelers should closely monitor official updates.

Tensions between Pakistan and Iran remain following the cross-border military strikes against armed groups in Iran's Sistan-Balochistan province. The risk of escalation remains high, and travelers are advised not to travel to Iran.

Travelers are advised to avoid border areas near Iraq, Afghanistan, and Pakistan, including Sistan and Balochistan province and regions east of Bam in Kerman province, due to the risk of violent unrest and cross-border clashes. Avoid lingering near military checkpoints and report suspicious activity. For extended travel between cities, hiring a reputable local guide is recommended.

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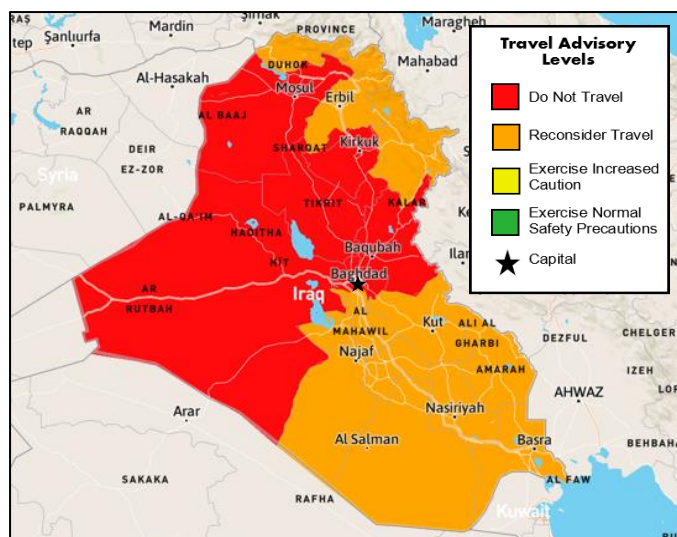
Iraq

Risk Level: **Extreme**

Country Overview:

The security situation in Iraq is hazardous. It is advised to avoid traveling to Iraq. Travel is unsafe due to terrorism, kidnapping, and armed conflict. There is also an extreme risk to personal safety and security because of active insurgent and terrorist groups, sectarian militias, and high levels of violence, including kidnappings, suicide bombings, and vehicle-borne or improvised explosive devices (IEDs).

Iraq remains subject to regional tensions. Militia groups opposed to the Western presence in Iraq continue to threaten Western interests in Iraq, including through attacks on Global Coalition military bases, diplomatic premises, and foreign nationals. The security situation remains uncertain and could deteriorate with little warning. Protests frequently occur in and around the International Zone in Baghdad. Protests can, and sometimes do, escalate into violence. You should avoid any rallies, marches, or processions and follow the instructions of local authorities.



Iraq faces regional tensions, with some areas experiencing sporadic attacks by artillery, drones, and rockets. There is an ongoing threat to Western interests. Travelers are advised to remain vigilant, implement robust security measures, have contingency plans in place, and stay informed about the latest developments through media reports and travel advisories. It is recommended that security arrangements be regularly reviewed and updated. Travelers are advised to avoid travel within 30km/18 mi of Federal Iraq's borders with Iran, Syria, Saudi Arabia, and Kuwait and limit non-essential travel to the Kurdistan region.

U.S. citizens are advised to avoid areas near the Turkish, Syrian, and Iranian borders due to continuous military operations against insurgent groups. There is ongoing armed conflict at the Syrian border, and traveling from Iraq to Syria for armed conflict is strongly discouraged. Engaging in such activities poses extreme personal risks, including kidnapping, injury, or death, as well as legal risks, such as arrest, fines, and expulsion. The Kurdistan Regional Government has warned of prison sentences of up to ten years for those illegally crossing the border. Supporting designated terrorist organizations is a crime, carrying penalties such as prison time and hefty fines in the United States.

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Israel

Risk Level: **Extreme**

Country Overview:

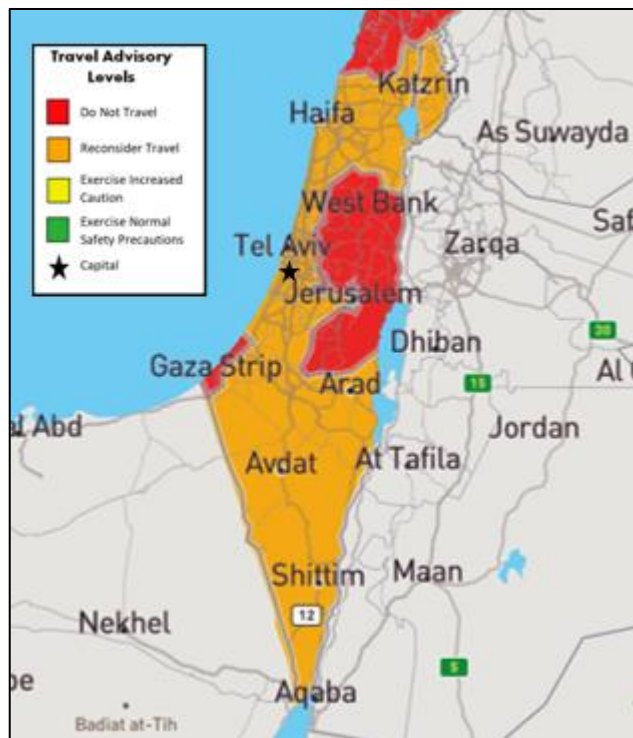
The security situation in Israel and Gaza is unstable, and certain areas are incredibly unsafe. Travelers to Israel or the Palestinian Territories are advised against all travel to Israel due to terrorism, civil unrest, and armed conflict. There is a high risk to personal safety and security due to the conflict between Israel and Iran. Travelers in Israel are advised to leave the country as soon as possible, and it is safe to do so.

On October 7, 2023, the Hamas militant group launched a surprise attack on southern Israel in the areas surrounding Gaza. Israel launched a full military offensive into the Gaza Strip in response. Travelers are advised to avoid the Gaza Strip and its surrounding border area in Israel.

Israel and Hezbollah have agreed to a ceasefire backed by the USA. The deal requires Israel and Hezbollah to withdraw their forces from southern Lebanon. The Lebanese army and UN mission in Lebanon, UNIFIL, will monitor the ceasefire and patrol the border area. Travelers are advised to avoid traveling to regions bordering Lebanon.

Israel launched targeted strikes on Iranian military and nuclear sites, killing senior officials. These attacks have struck cities in Iran, leading to civilian casualties. On June 22nd, the U.S. launched an attack on Iran's nuclear sites, dropping heavy ordnance to destroy the facilities deep underground. Iran responded with a missile attack on a U.S. base in Qatar. Subsequently, Israel and Iran have declared a ceasefire. Due to the volatile situation, travel to Iran is strongly discouraged, and travelers should closely monitor official updates.

Always exercise increased caution. Terrorist attacks could be indiscriminate and occur in places frequently visited by foreigners, such as tourist sites, public transport hubs, and busy public spaces.



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Lebanon

Risk Level: **Extreme**

Country Overview:

The security situation in Lebanon is hazardous, with some parts of the country being extremely unsafe. It is advised to avoid all travel to Lebanon due to the unpredictable security situation related to rocket, missile, and artillery exchanges between Israel and Hezbollah or other armed militant factions. There is a high risk to personal safety and security because of terrorist activity, armed clashes, kidnapping, and outbreaks of violence near Lebanon's borders with Syria and Israel. In January 2024, Deputy Hamas Chief Saleh al-Arouri was killed in a suspected Israeli drone strike in Beirut's southern suburbs of Dahiyeh.

Travelers should avoid southern Lebanon and depart if they are there; that is, all parts south of Saida, including inland areas. Cross-border rocket, missile, and artillery fire continue to impact southern Lebanon daily. It has caused a significant number of fatalities and injuries.

Israel and Hezbollah have agreed to a ceasefire agreement to bring an end to the two-year-long conflict along Lebanon's southern border. Under the terms of the deal, Israel and Hezbollah must withdraw their forces from the border region south of the Litani River. The Lebanese army will deploy to the area to monitor the ceasefire alongside the UN mission in Lebanon, UNIFIL.

Exercise caution, avoid demonstrations, and monitor local media for developments. There is a risk that access to the airport may be disrupted, whether by traffic congestion, temporary roadblocks, or closure caused by Israeli airstrikes nearby. Celebratory gunfire is common in Lebanon, and there is a risk of gunfire in residential areas in reaction to major regional developments. If you hear gunfire, take cover immediately. If you are traveling to the airport, check the local security situation and only make the journey if you judge it safe to do so. Remain alert to local conditions as these could change quickly.

The Lebanese Government cannot assure the protection of U.S. citizens against sudden eruptions of violence, including neighborhood, family, or sectarian disputes that can spiral out of control quickly and, in turn, can lead to gunfire or other violence with no apparent warning.



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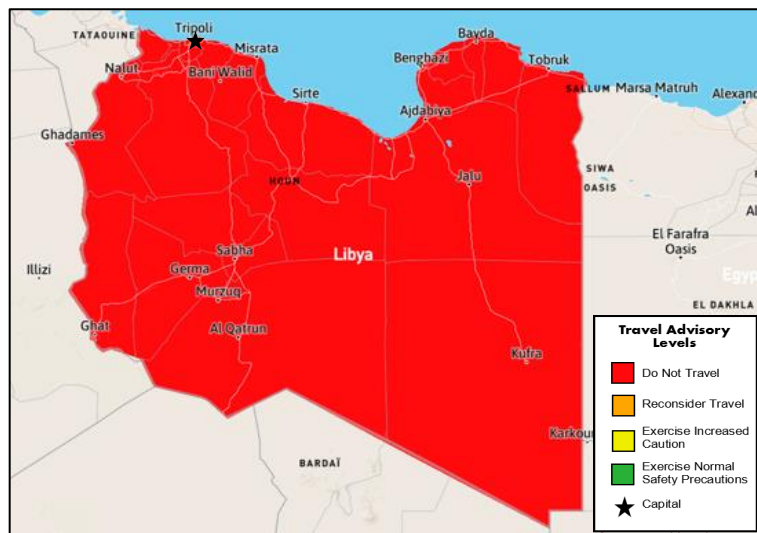


Libya

Risk Level: **Extreme**

Country Overview:

The security situation in Libya is hazardous. It is advised to avoid travel to Libya. Travel is unsafe due to armed conflict, terrorism, civil unrest, and crime. There is an extreme risk to personal safety and security because of high levels of terrorist activity and corruption, including kidnapping for ransom, suicide bombings, and vehicle-borne or other improvised explosive devices (IEDs). Terrorist groups continue plotting attacks in Libya. Violent extremist activity in Libya remains high, and extremist groups have made threats against



U.S. government officials and citizens. Terrorists may attack without warning, targeting tourist locations, hotels, transportation hubs, markets/shopping malls, and government facilities.

The 2021 Libyan election is effectively on permanent hold, as no significant political actor in the country shows any interest in preparing for an election that will likely see them losing power. Recent protests in the country have signaled a growing dissatisfaction amongst the electorate with the current de facto rulers: internationally recognized Prime Minister Hamid Dbeibah and renegade militant commander Khalifa Haftar. Civil unrest and outbreaks of violence between armed groups occur with little warning.

Foreign forces and mercenaries continue to operate in Libya. The Interim Government of National Unity has limited control over security throughout the country. The ongoing political instability has resulted in security incidents, road and airport closures, and oil blockades.

Tripoli and other cities, such as Surman, Al-Jufra, Misrata, Ajdabiya, Benghazi, Sabha, and Derna, have witnessed fighting among armed groups and terrorist attacks. Hotels and airports frequented by Westerners have been the targets of these attacks. Even demonstrations intended to be peaceful can turn confrontational and escalate into violence. Militia or armed groups sometimes detain travelers for arbitrary reasons, do not grant detainees access to a lawyer or legal process, and do not allow detainees to inform others of their status. The U.S. government cannot provide emergency or routine services.

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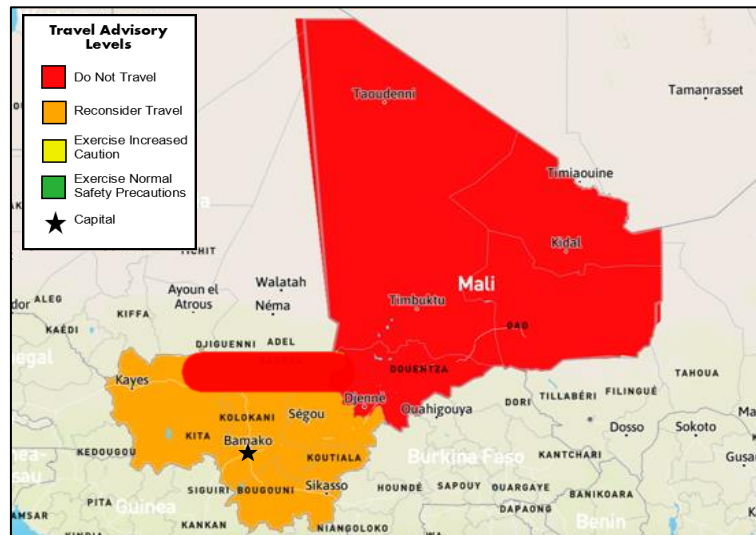
Mali

Risk Level: **Extreme**

Country Overview:

The security situation in Mali is hazardous. It is advised to avoid traveling to Mali. Travel is unsafe due to political instability, crime, and terrorism. There is an extreme risk to personal safety and security because of terrorist activity and violent crimes such as kidnapping and armed robbery.

In Mali, violent crimes such as kidnapping and armed robbery are common. Violent crime is prevalent during seasonal events and local holidays, particularly in Mali's southern regions and the suburbs of Bamako. It is common to see random police checkpoints and roadblocks at night throughout the country. Armed groups and terrorists continually plague Mali with kidnappings and attacks without warning. They often target nightclubs, restaurants, places of worship, hotels, Western diplomatic missions, and other locations frequented by foreigners.



Terrorist attacks are likely to be carried out in Mali. Although kidnapping is particularly prevalent in the northern and central parts of the country, kidnappings occur elsewhere across Mali. There is an extreme risk to personal safety and security for Westerners in Bamako as the Al-Qaeda-affiliated terrorist group, Jama'at Nusrat al-Islam wal-Muslimin (JNIM), publicly stated its intention to conduct attacks in Bamako. The U.S. government has ordered all U.S. government employees and families to depart the country due to the increase in terrorist attacks carried out in areas frequented by Westerners.

In Mali, thousands of foreign troops are leaving due to escalating violence, expanding Russian influence, and a severe humanitarian catastrophe. Since their initial deployment a decade ago, thousands of French troops and UN peacekeepers have failed to stop large portions of Mali from falling under the control of an Islamic extremist insurgency affiliated with organizations like al-Qaida and the Islamic State, with the current Government demanding all troops to leave.

Homosexuality is illegal in Mali, with a 2024 Penal Code imposing up to seven years in prison and fines for promoting or participating in same-sex relationships. Individuals perceived as LGBT+ or supporting their rights face increased risks of violence, blackmail, arrests, and abuse.

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North Korea

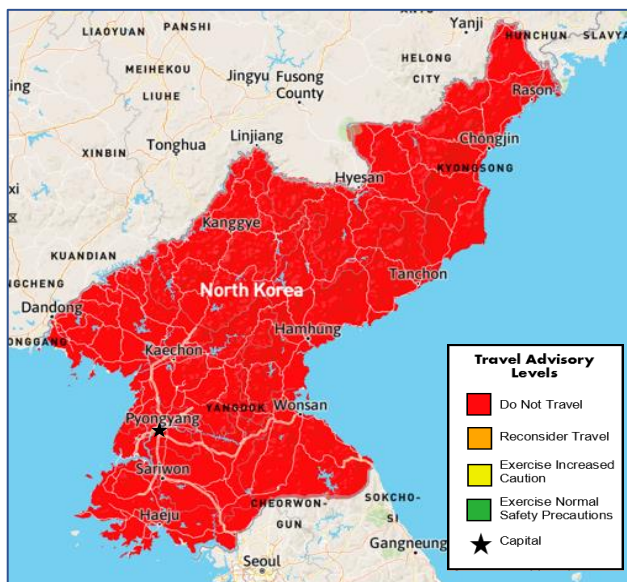
Risk Level: **Extreme**

Country Overview:

It is advised to avoid all travel to North Korea. The security situation remains volatile on the Korean peninsula, and North Korea's political tensions can change with little notice and no warning and pose an extreme risk to visitors.

Travel is unsafe due to the high risk of arrest and long-term detention. Additionally, U.S. passports are only valid for travel to, in, or through North Korea with specific authorization from the U.S. Department of State. Unique assurances are granted only in limited circumstances.

Kim Jong Un revealed new plans for his country's military, which point to more intense weapons testing and heightened regional tensions in the coming year.



Some 10,000 North Korean soldiers are confirmed to have arrived in Russia in December 2024 to aid in President Putin's efforts to overthrow the Ukrainian Government, which has sparked tensions with the international community. Kim Jong Un has since vowed to send more aid to Russia.

The U.S. government cannot provide emergency services to U.S. citizens in North Korea, as it does not have diplomatic or consular relations with North Korea. Sweden serves as the protecting power for the United States in North Korea, providing limited emergency services. The North Korean Government routinely delays or denies Swedish officials access to detained U.S. citizens.

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Russia

Risk Level: **Extreme**

Country Overview:

In some parts of Russia, security is hazardous, with specific areas extremely unsafe. Due to terrorism, harassment, and the arbitrary enforcement of local laws, it is advised to exercise increased caution in Russia.

There is an overall moderate risk to personal safety and security throughout the rest of the country due to terrorist groups continuing to plot attacks. Travelers should be vigilant when in popular and crowded areas. Additional counter-terrorism procedures and restrictions are to be expected across the country.



Avoid all travel to parts of the North Caucasus region (including the Mount Elbrus area), such as Chechnya, Dagestan, Ingushetia, North Ossetia, and the southeast part of Stavropol bordering Chechnya, Kabardino-Balkaria, and Karachay-Cherkessia; and within 10km of the border with the Ukrainian Donetsk and Lugansk Oblasts.

Russia enforces special restrictions on dual U.S.-Russian nationals. It may refuse to acknowledge the U.S. citizenship of dual U.S.-Russian nationals, including denying U.S. consular assistance to detained dual citizens and preventing their departure from Russia. Due to the Russian government-imposed reduction in U.S. diplomatic personnel, the U.S. government may delay providing services to U.S. citizens.

Finland has extended the closure of its road borders with Russia until further notice, including its maritime borders, responding to what it perceives as an orchestrated influx of asylum seekers from Russia. Moscow denied the claim when the closure was briefly lifted in December, resulting in over 300 asylum seekers entering from Russia within two days and prompting the extended closure.

Russia's full-scale attack on Ukraine is still ongoing. Western nations have placed severe economic sanctions against Moscow. Russian forces have faced setbacks after making initial gains, occupying nearly a fifth of Ukraine.

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Somalia

Risk Level: **Extreme**

Country Overview:

It is advised to avoid traveling to Somalia. The security situation in Somalia is hazardous. Travel is unsafe due to crime, terrorism, and piracy at the hands of armed militias. There is an extreme risk to personal safety and security because of terrorist activity and violent crime, such as kidnapping and murder, which are common throughout the country.

Al-Shabaab has lost control of a significant portion of its southern and central Somalia territory due to the success of the Africa Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM)-led Operation Indian Ocean offensive.

There is a current outbreak of Polio that has the potential to impact travelers.

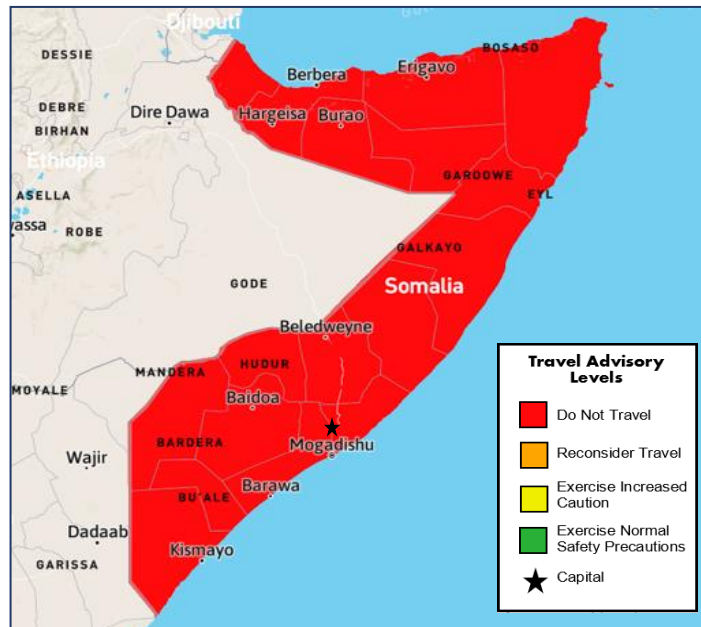
Medical facilities across Somalia have limited capacity and are often non-existent in rural areas.

The risk of kidnapping is high across Somalia, including areas near the borders with Kenya and Ethiopia, as well as in Somaliland. Terrorist and criminal organizations, including pirate groups, are known to carry out kidnappings, which have often resulted in fatalities.

In April 2025, several rocket attacks were launched at Mogadishu International Airport and other locations. Terrorist attacks may occur with little or no warning, targeting airports and seaports, government buildings, hotels, restaurants, shopping areas, and other areas where large crowds gather and Westerners frequent, as well as Government, military, and Western convoys. Due to their use by government officials, hotels are considered legitimate targets by terrorist groups. Attack methods include car bombs, suicide bombers, individual attackers, and mortar fire. The Somali Government regularly carries out counter-terrorist operations against Al-Shabaab, mainly in central and southern Somalia. Stay aware of your surroundings, keep up to date with local media reports, and follow the advice of local authorities.

It is advised to avoid all travel to Togdheer, Sanaag, and Sool in eastern Somaliland, as well as to Awdal, Maroodijeh, and Sahil regions west of Somaliland. Additionally, it is recommended to exercise extreme caution in areas bordering Somalia, such as those with Kenya, Ethiopia, and Djibouti.

The U.S. government can only provide emergency services to U.S. citizens in Somalia without a permanent consular presence.



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South Sudan

Risk Level: **Extreme**

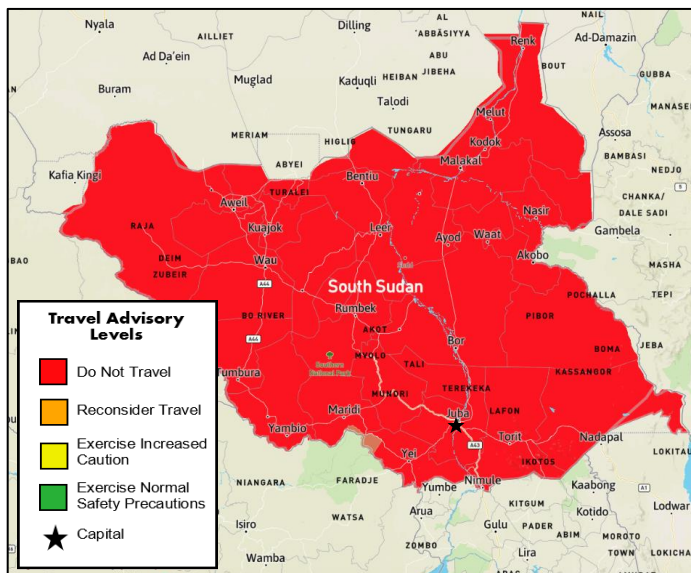
Country Overview:

The security situation in South Sudan is hazardous. Travel is unsafe due to crime and armed conflict. There is an extreme risk to personal safety and security because of armed clashes, border disputes, ethnic violence, and corruption, including carjacking, shootings, ambushes, assaults, robberies, and kidnappings.

Travelers to South Sudan should ensure that they have comprehensive contingency plans that do not depend on support from the Embassy. U.S. government personnel in South Sudan are under strict curfew; they require armored vehicles for nearly all movements, and official travel outside Juba is limited.

Foreign nationals have been the victims of sexual assault, armed robberies, and other violent crimes. Armed conflict is ongoing throughout the country and includes fighting between various political and ethnic groups, and weapons are readily available to the population. Journalist work is also very hazardous and illegal without the proper documentation.

It is advised that all travel to South Sudan be avoided.



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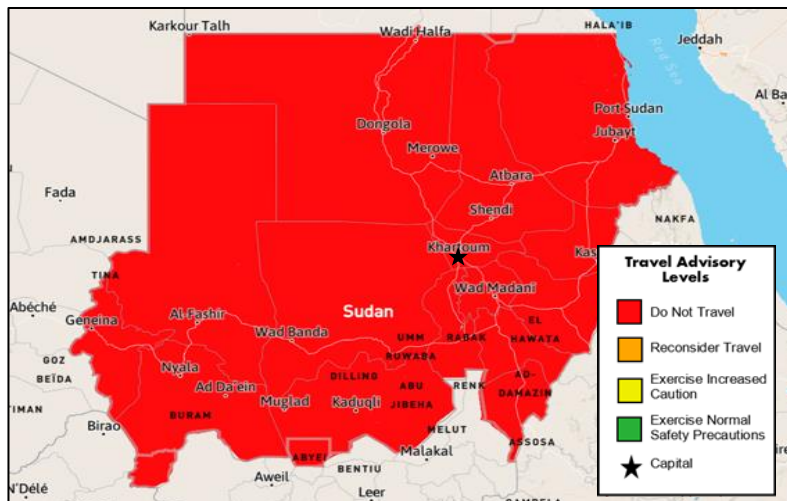
Sudan

Risk Level: **Extreme**

Country Overview:

The security situation in Sudan is hazardous. Travel is unsafe due to crime, terrorism, kidnapping, and armed conflict. Armed conflict and criminal activity are mainly present in contested regions, although kidnappings, armed robberies, and carjacking occur in all parts of the country.

Sudan's journey to democratic rule has been fragile since the April 2019 coup. A power-sharing agreement was established to form a government involving the military, civilian representatives, and protest groups. However, a second military coup on October 25, 2021, reignited the ongoing political crisis.



Fighting between military and paramilitary forces erupted in Khartoum on April 15, 2023, igniting a civil war. The conflict spread across the country, with rebel forces (RSF) driving government forces (SAF) out of the capital, Khartoum. The SAF recaptured Khartoum in March 2025; however, the conflict continues, with RSF forces launching new offensives in April 2025.

Khartoum International Airport is currently closed. The only civilian airport operating international flights is Port Sudan Airport; however, it is subject to drone attacks, and there is a high risk of intermittent closures. Additionally, Chad has closed its border with Sudan.

Sudan is experiencing an outbreak of Dengue fever. Dengue fever is a mosquito-borne illness that spreads close to still water sources. As of January, the Sudanese Health Ministry reported 844 confirmed cases and 5,358 suspected cases of the disease.

The security situation remains unstable, with reports of looting, sexual assaults, and attacks on foreigners and international organization employees. Access to essential services, including hospitals, food, water, medication, and fuel, has been disrupted, and the telecommunication network could be unreliable.

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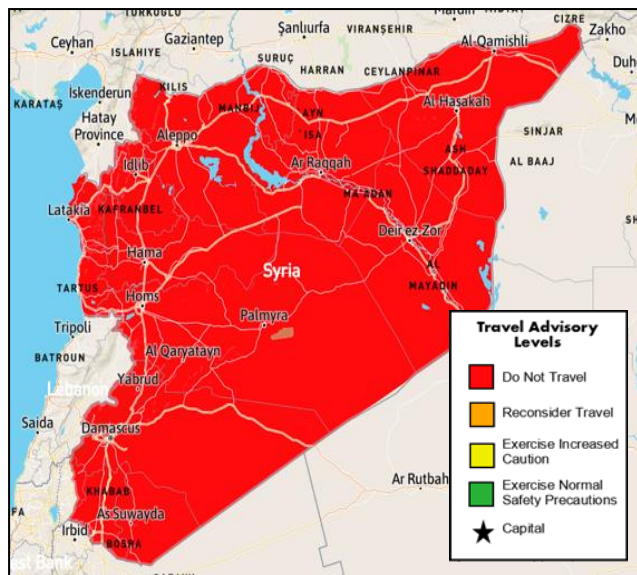
Syria

Risk Level: **Extreme**

Country Overview:

In Syria, the security situation is hazardous. It is advised to avoid traveling to Syria. Travel is unsafe due to armed conflict, terrorism, and civil unrest. There is an extreme risk to personal safety and security because no part of Syria is considered safe from violence. The likelihood of death or serious injury has increased dramatically as a result of widespread military operations employing chemical warfare, artillery, and aerial bombardment. Given the high number of people killed or injured by ongoing attacks throughout Syria, especially major cities, terrorists are quite likely to attempt attacks there. ★

In December 2024, rebel forces from the Hayat Tahrir al-Sham (HTS) militant group and its allies toppled the al-Assad Government and took power. A transition government has been established, but the rebel groups that toppled al-Assad are not united. The security situation in Syria remains extremely dangerous.



Terrorist attacks in Syria, particularly by groups like Daesh (formerly ISIS/ISIL), continue to cause significant harm, especially in northeastern regions. These attacks often target civilians in public areas such as transport hubs, markets, religious sites, and hotels, as well as strategic locations like military facilities, government buildings, and oil facilities. Attacks are more likely to occur around national holidays and religious observances, thus travelers are encouraged to be extra cautious during these periods.

Terrorist groups operating in Syria frequently use kidnapping as a tactic, specifically targeting tourists, humanitarian aid workers, journalists, and business travelers.

The U.S. government cannot provide any emergency services to U.S. citizens in Syria. U.S. citizens seeking consular services should attempt to leave the country and contact a U.S. embassy or consulate in a neighboring country as soon as possible and safely.

Long-standing conflict with neighboring states and porous borders has created a complex and unpredictable security environment. Torture and extrajudicial executions have been reported in the filthy government detention facilities, where detainees have been subjected to harsh, inhuman, and degrading treatment.

Damascus International Airport now has international commercial flights to and from it.

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Ukraine

Risk Level: **Extreme**

Country Overview:

It is advised that travelers avoid all travel to Ukraine. The security situation in eastern Ukraine is dangerous, with some areas considered highly unsafe. Due to Russia's invasion, there is a heightened risk to personal safety and security throughout Ukraine.

On February 24, 2022, Russia invaded Ukraine with ground and air attacks on major Ukrainian cities, including its capital, Kyiv.

Russia's military moved into Ukraine from Crimea, Donetsk, and Luhansk territories and across the Russian Northern border and neighboring northern country Belarus.

Do not travel to Crimea, as the international community, the United States, and Ukraine do not recognize Russia's annexation. There is continuing abuse against foreigners and the local population by the occupation authorities in Crimea, particularly against those who challenge their influence on the peninsula.

There have been reports of abuse and arbitrary imprisonment by Russian Occupation authorities, targeting both foreigners and residents. Individuals who oppose Russia's occupation of the peninsula are the primary targets.

The Trump administration's recent suspension of intelligence sharing with Ukraine has significantly weakened Ukrainian security and its defense against Russian attacks. Due to military activity, travelers should avoid all travel to Ukraine and leave the country if they are already there. Ukrainian airspace is closed, and most evacuations are via its western borders into neighboring countries. Martial law remains in place, and travelers should follow the instructions and advice of the Ukrainian authorities.



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Venezuela

Risk Level: **Extreme**

Country Overview:

The security situation in Venezuela is hazardous. Travel is unsafe due to ongoing political instability, crime, poor health infrastructure, and arbitrary arrest and detention of foreign nationals. Political marches and demonstrations, which occasionally become violent, are frequent in all areas, and crimes like homicide, armed robbery, kidnapping, drug trafficking, and carjacking are common.

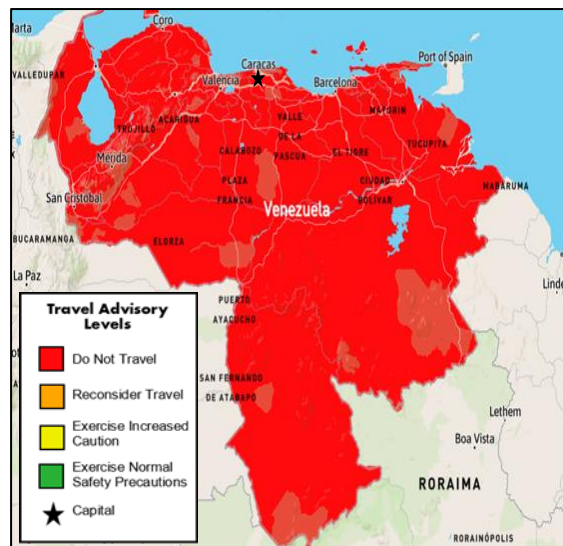
Since March 11, 2019, the U.S. Department of State has suspended all operations at the U.S. Embassy in Caracas and has withdrawn all diplomatic personnel from Venezuela. The United States has suspended all nonstop flights between Venezuela and the U.S. until further notice.

Nicolas Maduro was sworn in as Venezuela's president on January 10, 2025, amid a tense political climate. Maduro is viewed internationally as an illegitimate president, with the U.S. offering a bounty for his capture. There remains a heightened risk of protests and demonstrations, which could escalate into violence. Travelers are advised to monitor local media and avoid crowds, political gatherings, and security barricades.

Some of Venezuela's land and sea borders are subject to closure. U.S. citizens residing or traveling in Venezuela are advised to depart the country. Consular access to detained U.S. citizens is severely restricted, and the U.S. government is unlikely to be granted access. Security forces have arbitrarily detained U.S. citizens for long periods. Venezuelan authorities may not notify the U.S. government of the detention of a U.S. citizen.

Avoid all travel within 40 km (25 miles) of the Brazilian border. The area is active with drug traffickers and illegal armed groups, posing a significant risk of criminal kidnapping.

There are shortages of food, electricity, water, medicine, and medical supplies throughout much of Venezuela, and avoiding non-essential travel is advised. Travelers are advised to avoid the areas within 50 miles of the Venezuelan-Colombian border and 25 miles of the Venezuelan-Brazilian border. Caracas International Airport frequently experiences disruptions due to power failures, leading to flight delays or cancellations. Travelers should stay in close contact with their airline or travel agent for updates and allow extra time for travel to the airport due to the current situation.



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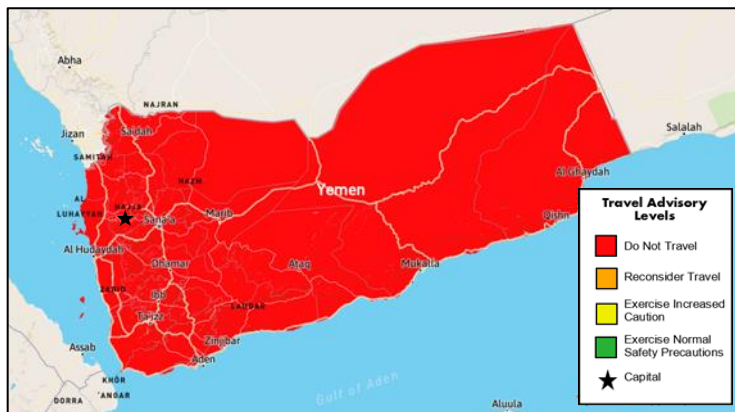


Yemen

Risk Level: **Extreme**

Country Overview:

The security situation in Yemen is hazardous. Travel is unsafe due to armed conflict, terrorism, and civil unrest. There is an extreme risk to health and personal safety because of ongoing military conflict, heightened terrorist activity, kidnappings for ransom, and unlawful detentions by rebel groups. Employees of Western organizations may be targeted in attacks or abductions. Military conflict has caused significant destruction of infrastructure, housing, medical facilities, schools, and power and water utilities. This limits access to electricity, clean water, and medical care.



There have been several instances of Israeli missile attacks targeting areas in Yemen controlled by the Houthi group. The continued risk of missile strikes in these areas poses a significant danger to individuals traveling through them. The presence of military-grade weapons poses a significant threat to visitors to the country, as they may be used by criminals, terrorists, or security forces.

Crime, including carjacking, robbery, and extortion, is pervasive across the country. Tribal conflicts over land frequently escalate into violence, and various militias, including the Houthis, operate extrajudicial detention facilities where arbitrary detention occurs. Recent events in the Red Sea have heightened the risk of foreign nationals being detained.

The U.S. Embassy in Sana'a suspended its operations in February 2015, and the U.S. government cannot provide emergency services to U.S. citizens. Cholera is also present throughout Yemen, and the provision of adequate medical supplies is either extremely limited or unavailable.

There is a very high risk of kidnapping and detention of U.S. citizens in Yemen, particularly dual-national Yemeni Americans. Rebel groups in Sana'a have detained U.S. citizens, including dual Yemeni American citizens. U.S. citizens, including dual nationals, have faced difficulty departing Yemen, including lengthy delays.

There are reports of companies outside of Yemen offering tourist visits to the Yemeni island of Socotra and misrepresenting the security situation in the area. They include facilitating unofficial and invalid visas to the region. The sovereign Republic of Yemen Government is the only entity that can issue valid Yemeni tickets. U.S. citizens should not travel to Socotra or any part of Yemen.

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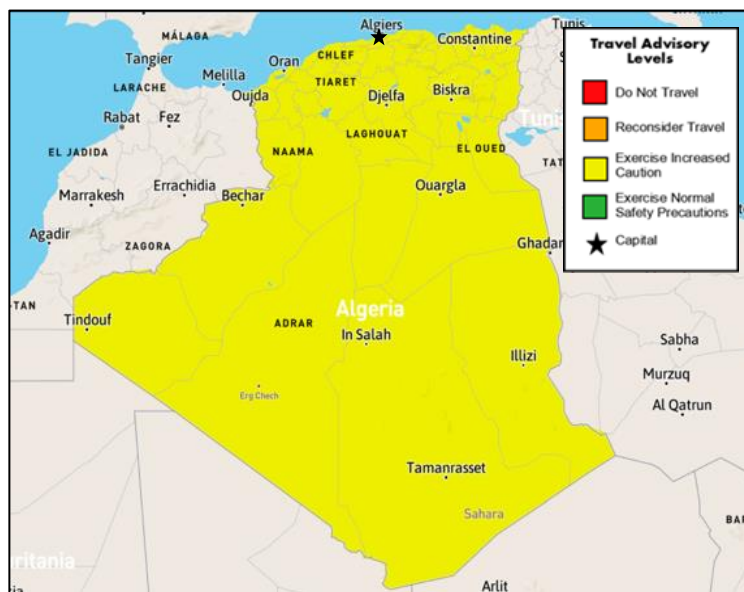
HIGH RISK COUNTRIES



Algeria

Risk Level: **Moderate****Country Overview:**

In some parts of Algeria, the security situation is hazardous, with specific areas extremely unsafe. Travelers are advised to exercise increased caution due to terrorism. There is a moderate risk to personal safety and security because terrorists are likely to carry out attacks, including kidnappings, and civil disturbances sometimes occur throughout the country. Since February 2019, mass protests have occurred across Algeria, demanding immediate political reform. Travelers should avoid political gatherings and demonstrations and follow local advice.



Terrorists are likely to try to carry out attacks in Algeria, including kidnappings. Terrorist attacks have focused on the Algerian state, but attacks could be indiscriminate and include foreigners. There's also a risk that lone actors could target foreigners. You should be vigilant of your surroundings and take additional security precautions, especially in the southern border areas with Libya and Tunisia, the rural and mountainous regions of the north, and the Sahara.

Avoid traveling to rural areas within 50 km (31 miles) of the border with Tunisia and 250 km (155 miles) of Libya, Niger, Mali, and Mauritania due to terrorism and criminal activities, including kidnapping. Traveling within 30 km of the border with Tunisia in the provinces of Illizi and Ouargla, and the Chaambi mountains area, is not advised.

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Azerbaijan

Risk Level: **Moderate**

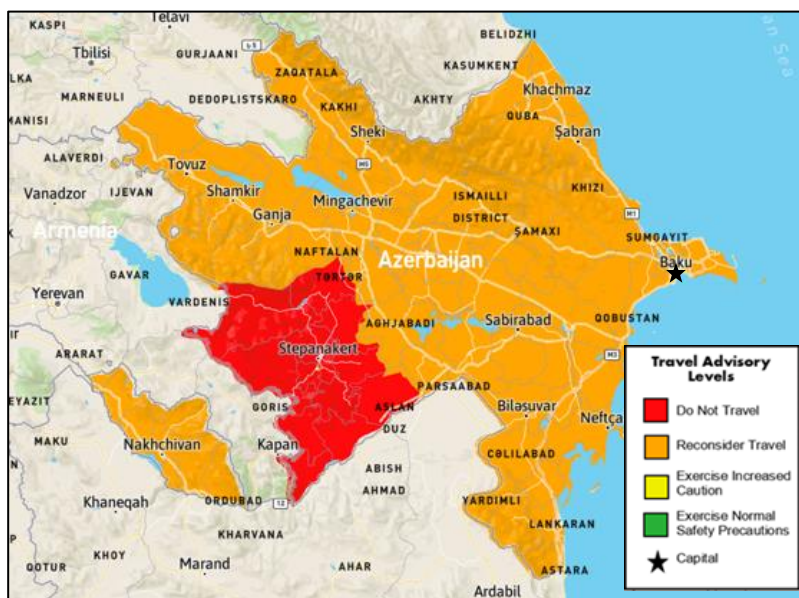
Country Overview:

The security situation in some parts of Azerbaijan is hazardous, with specific areas extremely unsafe. It is advised that travel to Azerbaijan be reconsidered due to the risk of terrorism and armed conflict. There is a moderate threat to personal safety and security because terrorist groups continue to plot attacks.

Azerbaijan and Armenia are in dispute over the Nagorno-Karabakh territory. The region is recognized internationally as Azerbaijani, but ethnic Armenians have governed since 1994 following a separatist movement.

Conflict between the two countries erupted again on September 19 after Azerbaijani police and civilians were killed by landmines. Azerbaijan mobilized and seized control of the territory within two days. Azerbaijan has exerted control over the state and begun disbanding the former Government. Travelers are advised to avoid Nagorno-Karabakh and the nearby border with Armenia.

Nagorno-Karabakh and the international border between Armenia and Azerbaijan should be avoided. Some areas still contain unexploded ordnance (UXO), including the towns and rayons of Ganja, Tartar, Barda, Beylagan, and Aghjabadi. Efforts to remove these UXOs are underway, and it is advised not to touch or approach any UXO; instead, it is recommended to warn the Azerbaijani authorities immediately. The U.S. government cannot provide emergency services to U.S. citizens in Nagorno-Karabakh as access is restricted.



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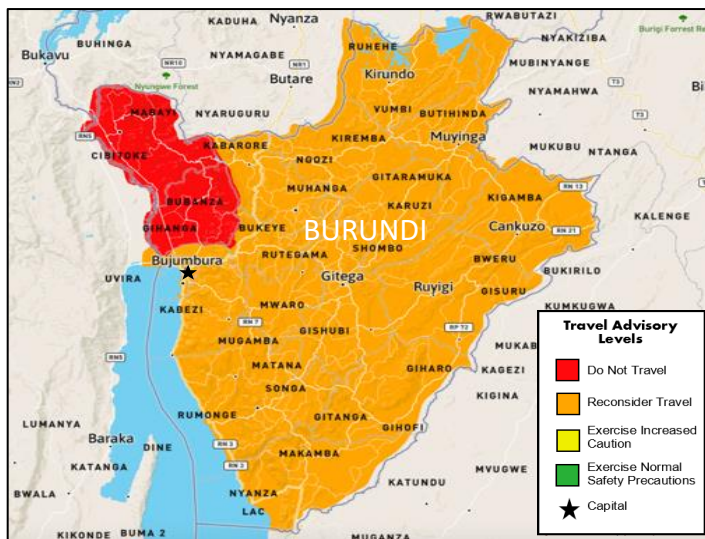
Burundi

Risk Level: **Extreme**

Country Overview:

The security situation in Burundi is hazardous, with some regions of the country being extremely unsafe. Travelers are advised to reconsider traveling to Burundi. There is a high risk to personal safety and security because of ongoing political tensions, sporadic violence, clashes by armed groups, and serious crimes, such as armed robbery.

It is advised to avoid all travel to Rusizi National Park, Cibitoke, and Bubanza provinces; areas of Bujumbura Rural province west of the Rusizi River towards the Democratic Republic of the Congo border, except for the Ruvubu National Park; the road north of Bujumbura airport towards Cibitoke; and the main road running west from Kayanza through the Kibira National Park. It is also advised to limit all but essential travel to the rest of Burundi (excluding airside transit through Bujumbura International Airport).



Rift Valley Fever (RVF), a disease primarily affecting livestock, has been reported in the country. There are no reports of humans contracting the disease in Burundi; however, human infection remains possible through mosquito bites or for people in direct contact with infected animals. Burundi's rainy season, from October to May, often leads to flash floods.

The U.S. government cannot provide emergency services to U.S. citizens in Burundi due to travel restrictions on U.S. Embassy personnel. This includes the provinces of Bubanza and Cibitoke, Kibira National Park (including the park's southernmost part in Muramvya province), and Ruvubu and Buriri Forest.

Travelers are strongly advised to avoid the border region with the DRC due to the high risk of armed incursions.

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Cameroon

Risk Level: **Extreme**

Country Overview:

The security situation in certain parts of Cameroon is hazardous. It is advised to exercise increased caution in Cameroon due to crime, civil unrest, and terrorism. There is a moderate risk to personal safety and security because of terrorist activity in Northern and Eastern Cameroon and violent crime, such as kidnapping, armed robbery, assault, and carjacking.

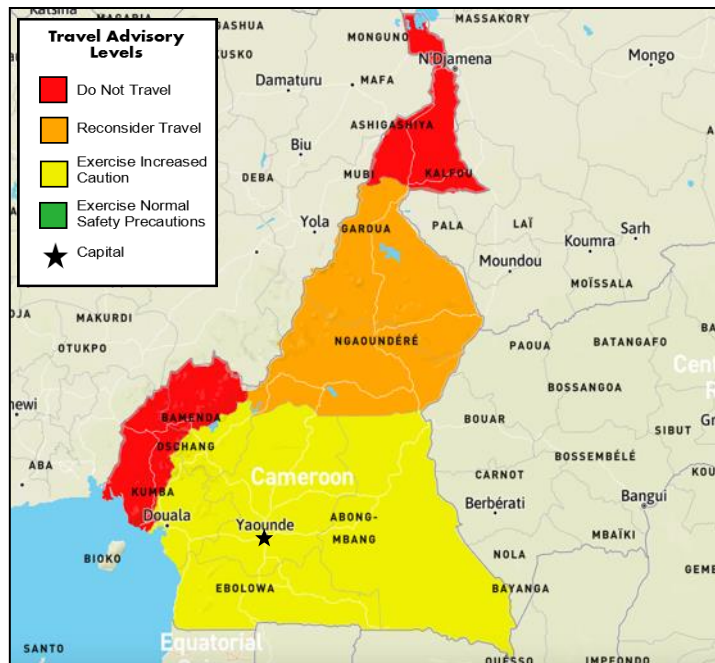
The Anglophone Crisis is an ongoing armed confrontation in the long-standing Anglophone conflict over creating an independent state called Ambazonia in western Cameroon.

Over the past year, multiple clashes between security forces and armed groups have occurred in many places in the Northwest and Southwest regions, including in the towns of Bafut, Tubah, Ndu, Widikum, and Lebialem division, the Gughe village, DongaMantung division, the Kikaikelaki village (Kumbo commune), Bui division, Bamessing village (Ndop commune), and Ngoketunjia division. Travelers should be vigilant, keep a low profile, and monitor local media.

It is advised to avoid travel to the North, Far North, Northwest, and Southwest Regions and parts of the East and Adamawa Regions within 20 km of Cameroon's border with the Central African Republic due to armed violence, terrorism, crime, and kidnapping.

There have been reports of an outbreak of hemorrhagic fever in Kie Ntem Province, north of Equatorial Guinea. The area surrounding it is off-limits for travel. It would be best to exercise extreme caution in and around Kie Ntem, Equatorial Guinea, Ambam, Kye-Ossi, and Olamze in southern Cameroon and Woleu-Ntem in Gabon. Before you travel, check with the local authorities.

Due to current official travel restrictions, the U.S. government cannot provide emergency services to U.S. citizens in the North, Far North, Northwest, Southwest, and parts of the Adamawa and East Regions of Cameroon.



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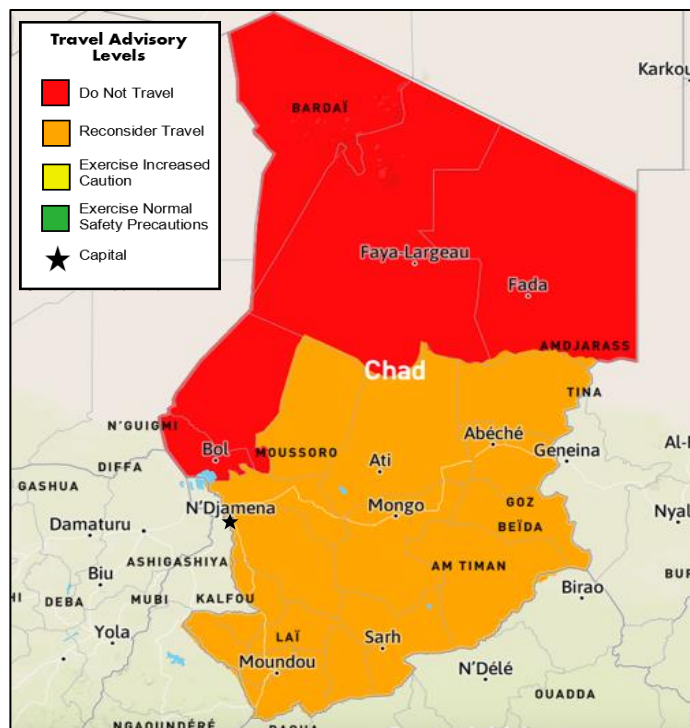
Chad

Risk Level: **Extreme**

Country Overview:

The security situation in Chad is hazardous, with some parts of the country being extremely unsafe. It is advised to reconsider travel to Chad due to crime, terrorism, and the existence of minefields. There is a high risk to personal safety and security because of widespread violent crimes, such as armed robbery and mugging, as well as terrorist attacks and minefields along the borders of Libya and Sudan.

Chad's former President, Idriss Deby Itno, was killed in battle while fighting rebels en route to N'Djamena, the capital. The military took control of the country in the interim before the contested elections held in May 2024, which resulted in the late President's son, General Mahamat Idriss Deby Itno, being declared head of state as he consolidated power. Deby was the incumbent and led the transitional Government before the elections.



It is advised not to travel to the Lake Chad Region and the borders with the Central African Republic, Libya, and Sudan due to terrorism, armed conflict, and active minefields.

The U.S. government is limited in its ability to provide emergency services to U.S. citizens in Chad. U.S. Government employees must obtain special authorization to travel outside the capital, including the Lake Chad Basin.

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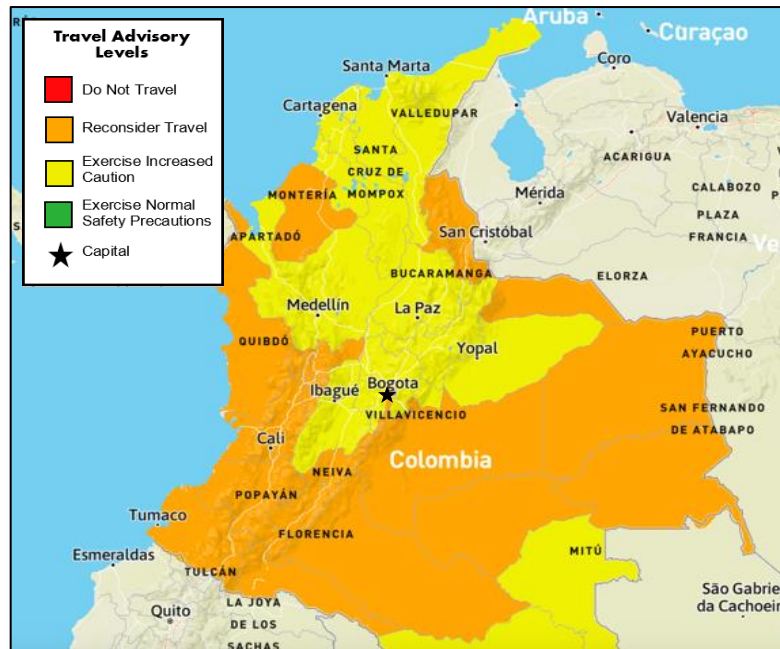


Colombia

Risk Level: **Moderate**

Country Overview:

In some parts of Colombia, the security situation is hazardous, with specific areas extremely unsafe. It is advised to reconsider travel to Colombia due to crime, civil unrest, and terrorism. There is a moderate risk to personal safety and security as the National Liberation Army (ELN) continues to plot attacks and violent and organized criminal activities, such as homicide, assault, armed robbery, extortion, and kidnapping. Travelers should be vigilant and pay close attention to warnings issued by the Colombian authorities.



New details have emerged about a nationwide strike currently underway in Colombia, increasing the risk of unrest and travel disruptions.

Authorities advise avoiding all travel within 20 km of the Venezuelan and Ecuadorian borders, except for the Pan-American Highway crossing at Ipiales. Travel should be limited to essential purposes in several high-risk regions due to crime and terrorism, including Arauca, Guaviare, Chocó, southern Meta (Ariari region), parts of Nariño (South Pacific, Sanquianga, Telembí), western Cauca (excluding Popayán), Buenaventura, Bajo Cauca and Urabá (Antioquia), southern Bolívar and Córdoba, the Catatumbo region (Norte de Santander), multiple locations in Putumayo, Puerto Carreño (Vichada), and several municipalities in Caquetá.

Authorities advise staying informed and following local guidance. Meanwhile, violence targeting foreigners through dating apps has increased in Bogotá, Cartagena, and Medellín, and travelers should exercise caution and avoid secluded meeting locations.

The Pacific coast of Chocó is a popular destination for eco-tourism. However, much of the region is remote, and illegal armed groups are active in the area, particularly near the border with Panama, where they are involved in the drug trade.

The U.S. government cannot provide emergency services to U.S. citizens because U.S. government personnel are unable to travel to these areas due to security restrictions and limited domestic travel options.

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Congo (Republic of)

Risk Level: **Moderate**

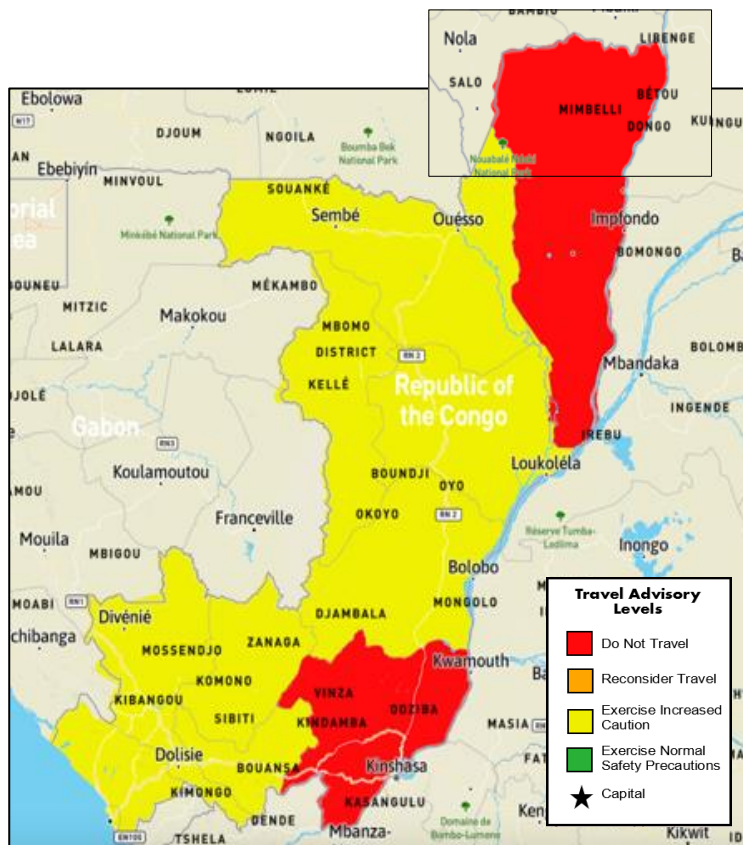
Country Overview:

The security situation in parts of the Congo is hazardous. Due to crime and civil unrest, it is advised to exercise increased caution in the country. There is a moderate risk to personal safety and security because violent crime, such as armed robbery and assault, is common. In addition, political demonstrations and armed clashes can be unpredictable.

The neighboring Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) experiences sporadic but localized outbreaks of Ebola, cholera, and yellow fever. Travelers are advised to take precautions when traveling near border regions with the DRC.

It is advised to avoid all travel to the southern and western districts of the Pool region, including the Boko, Kindamba, Kinkala, Mayama, and Mindouli districts; the Mouyondzi district of the Bouenza region; and within 50km of the border with the Central African Republic in the Likouala region.

The U.S. government cannot provide emergency assistance to citizens outside Brazzaville. The Pool region, historically a conflict zone between the Government and the Ninja insurgent group, remains a potential risk despite a 2017 ceasefire. Violent clashes could resume without warning, particularly in Boko, Kindamba, Kinkala, Mayama, and Mindouli districts.



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Cuba

Risk Level: **Moderate**

Country Overview:

The security situation in Cuba is relatively stable and characterized by a strong military and police presence. Americans should exercise increased caution due to health attacks targeting numerous U.S. Embassy employees. The safety and security of other travelers in Cuba may also be at risk. While there is no recent history of terrorism in Cuba, attacks cannot be ruled out. Tourists should be aware of the threat of



petty crime, and Cuba does, at times, experience violent crimes such as armed robbery, sexual assault, and homicide. Be cautious of your surroundings.

Avoid Hotel Nacional and Hotel Capri in Havana. If you experience any unusual or acute auditory or sensory phenomena, move to a different area immediately. Cuban authorities may carry out chemical fumigation measures across the island to control the spread of mosquito-borne diseases. The chemicals used may cause some discomfort if you come into contact with them.

Raul Castro retired and stepped down as the first secretary of the Communist Party of Cuba, transferring power to President Miguel Diaz-Canel. In the short term, little change is expected as Diaz-Canel is a staunch ally and supporter of the Castro family. The U.S. has declared Cuba a state sponsor of terrorism and has imposed sanctions over human rights violations.

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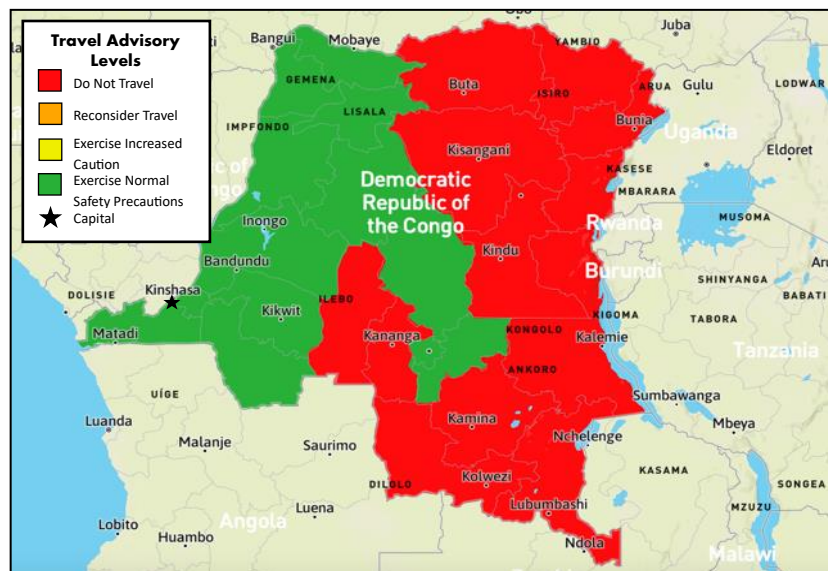
Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC)

Risk Level: **Extreme**

Country Overview:

In some areas of the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), the security situation is hazardous, with specific parts of the country extremely unsafe. It is advised to reconsider travel to the DRC due to civil unrest, terrorism, and crime.

There is a high risk to personal safety and security due to the activities of rebels and other armed groups, potential civil unrest, and outbreaks of violence, including killing, rape, kidnapping, and pillaging. Avoid overland travel in rural areas in eastern Congo. Contract a private security escort with local experience for business-critical trips.



The U.S. Travel Advisory has issued a level 4 "Do Not Travel" alert for specific regions in the Democratic Republic of Congo, including North Kivu Province, Ituri Province, the Eastern DRC Region, and the Three Kasai Provinces. Additionally, the advisory applies to all travel to or within 50km of the border with the Central African Republic. Traveling against this advice may invalidate your travel insurance.

Government forces are battling a rebel insurgency in the east of the country. The M23 rebels represent a Tutsi minority that lives in the DRC. They are backed by the Rwandan Government, which has been accused of supplying and arming the group. The group has seized multiple towns and cities in the region, including Goma and Bukavu. The conflict caused tensions between Rwanda and other African countries, many of which have sent armed forces to assist in containing the M23 rebels in conjunction with a UN peacekeeping force that has been in the region since 1999.

The DRC experiences sporadic but localized outbreaks of Ebola, cholera, and yellow fever. Travelers are advised to avoid travel to outlying population centers. The DRC is experiencing an outbreak of Mpox, formerly known as monkeypox. The World Health Organization has declared the outbreak a public health emergency of international concern.

It is recommended to avoid all travel to the provinces of Kinshasa, the DRC-Central African Republic border, Kasai, Kasai Central, Kasai Oriental, Sud-Kivu, Nord- Kivu, Maniema, Mai-Ndombe, Tanganyika, and Ituri, North and South Kivu, as there have been sporadic and severe outbreaks of violence targeting civilians, including killing, rape, kidnapping, and pillaging. Limiting all but essential travel to the rest of the country is further advised.

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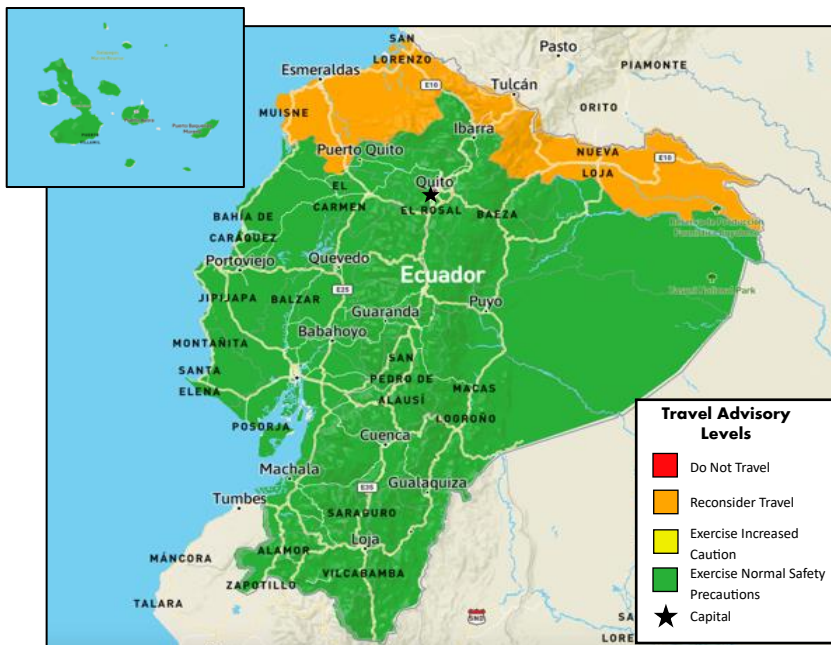
Ecuador

Risk Level: **Moderate**

Country Overview:

Travelers in Ecuador are advised to exercise increased caution, particularly in areas with a hazardous security situation.

The northern border area with Colombia poses a heightened risk to personal safety due to a higher crime rate and incidences of kidnapping for ransom, rape/sexual assault, and drug-assisted robberies. Additionally, severe and sometimes violent demonstrations and road blockades can occur nationwide with little warning. Being aware and cautious when traveling to or within Ecuador is crucial. Due to crime, it is advised to avoid travel to Sucumbíos and the northern part of the Esmeraldas provinces, including Esmeraldas City and Guayaquil, south of Portete de Tarquí Avenue.



The public healthcare system in Ecuador provides free healthcare services to locals and foreigners; however, access to high-quality healthcare and specialized medical treatment may be limited outside of major cities. Travelers must ensure that their insurance includes coverage for evacuation by air ambulance. If you travel to the Galapagos Islands by boat, you may be required to provide information such as your blood group and emergency contacts when boarding.

On January 5, 2025, a 60-day State of Emergency (SOE) was issued due to internal unrest and armed violence. This resulted in a curfew from 10 p.m. to 5 a.m. The SOE was extended by 60 days on April 12.

Travelers entering Ecuador via land or river borders from Peru or Colombia must provide a criminal record certificate from their country of residence for the past five years. However, exemptions include individuals with valid Ecuadorian visas, diplomatic passport holders, children under 18, victims of human trafficking, or those seeking international protection under Ecuador's Human Mobility Law. No restrictions apply to those entering Ecuador by air.

This is due to a high level of gang-related violence linked to the presence of organized crime relating to the production and trafficking of illegal drugs. Tourists are not usually targeted; however, you could be a victim of violence due to mistaken identity or be caught up in a security incident involving others.

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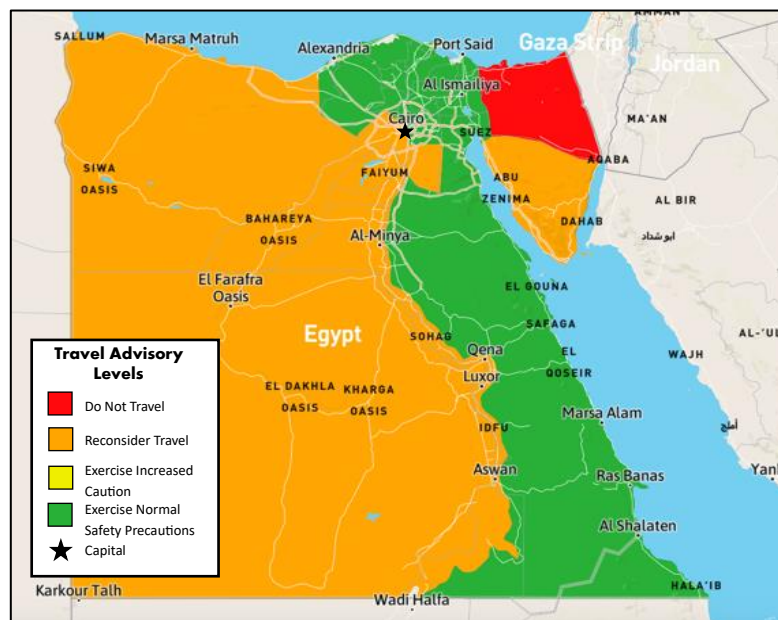


Egypt

Risk Level: **Moderate**

Country Overview:

In some parts of Egypt, security is hazardous, with some regions of the country being extremely unsafe. Travelers to Egypt should reconsider travel due to terrorism. There is a moderate risk to personal safety and security overall due to several extremist organizations operating in Egypt. It is advised to avoid traveling to the Governorate of North Sinai and 20km of the Egyptian and Libyan border because of the significant increase in criminal activity and continued terrorist attacks on police and security forces.



Due to the unstable security situation in Sudan, many people are reportedly trying to cross the border into Egypt. The two primary land border crossings between Egypt and Sudan are Qustul and Argeen. The infrastructure at these border crossings is minimal, resulting in extended wait times of several days for individuals attempting to cross the border. Travelers should be aware that access to food and water is limited at these crossings.

It is advised to avoid all travel within 20 km of the Egypt-Libya border, except for El Salloum, where we advise against all travel except for essential purposes. It is also advised not to travel to the northern part of the South Sinai Governorate beyond the St Catherine-Nuweibaa Road, except for the coastal areas along the west and east of the peninsula.

The safety situation at and near the Egypt-Gaza border remains volatile. Travelers near the Gaza border are advised to leave the area as soon as possible; otherwise, avoid the area.

Local law prohibits protesting or demonstrating without a permit. Being near anti-government protests can draw scrutiny from Egyptian police and security forces. U.S. citizens have been detained for participating in demonstrations and posting content on social media perceived as critical of Egypt or its allies.

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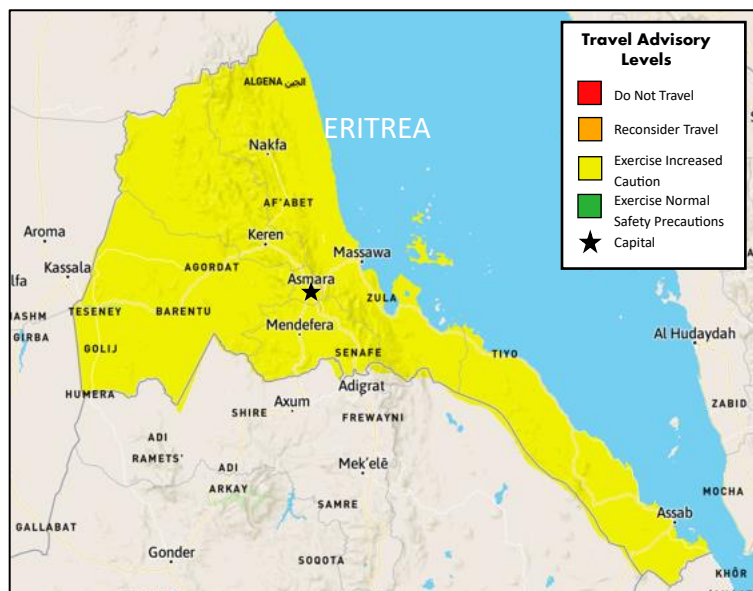


Eritrea

Risk Level: **Extreme**

Country Overview:

The security situation in some parts of Eritrea is hazardous. Due to travel restrictions, limited consular assistance, and political volatility, it is advised to exercise increased caution in Eritrea. There is a high risk to personal safety and security because of petty crimes like bandit attacks and pickpocketing, the ongoing instability in Ethiopia, and border disputes with Djibouti. Landmines can be found in many remote areas in Eritrea, particularly in Nakfa, Adi Keih, Arezza, the 40 km-wide regions between the Mereb and Setit Rivers, and in the region north and west of Keren, areas near Ghinda, Massawa, Barentu, Agordat, Dekemhare, and south of Tessenei.



Avoiding all travel within 25km of Eritrea's land borders is advised. All border crossings between Eritrea and Ethiopia are closed, and all foreign nationals, including diplomats, must apply for a travel permit well in advance to leave Asmara. Bearers of U.S. passports are advised to avoid attempting land travel between the two countries.

In Eritrea, the U.S. government cannot provide emergency services to U.S. citizens because U.S. government employees must obtain special clearance to travel outside Asmara. Eritrean law enforcement officials regularly block access to foreign nationals in detention. Therefore, the U.S. Embassy may not receive notification or be allowed access if you are detained or arrested.

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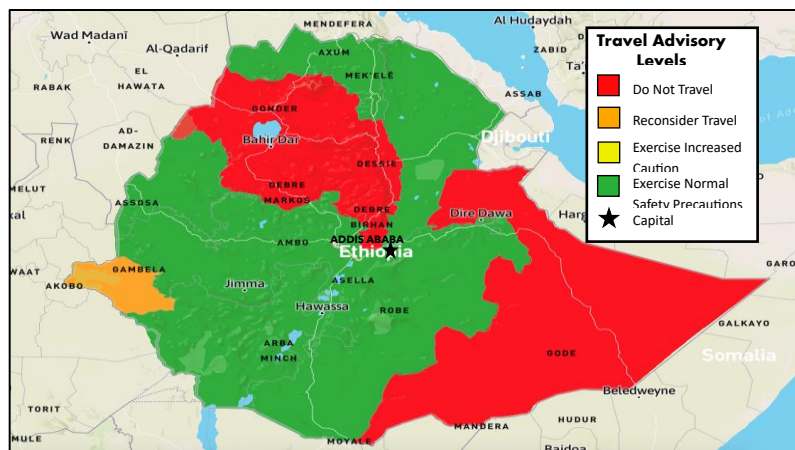


Ethiopia

Risk Level: **High**

Country Overview:

The security climate in certain parts of Ethiopia is complex, with some regions being highly unsafe. Due to armed conflict, communications disruptions, civil unrest, crime, terrorism, extreme risk, and uncertainty, it is advised to reconsider travel to Ethiopia. There is a risk of widespread protests in response to political and religious unrest. Demonstrations may occur at short notice and result in enormous gatherings, leading to travel disruptions and road closures. You should use caution and avoid crowds, especially near places of worship.



It is advised to avoid all travel within 10 km of the borders of Eritrea, South Sudan, and Kenya and 20 km of the border with Sudan. It is also advised to avoid travel to the whole of the Tigray regional state, the whole of Gambella provincial state, the West Wollega Zone, East Wollega Zone, Kellem Wellega and Horo Gudru Wellega in the Oromia regional state, the total of Metekel Zone and Maokomo Special zone in the Benishangul Gumuz provincial state, north of the A4 road in West Shewa Zone, North Shewa Zone in the Oromia regional state, and within 100km of the border with Tigray provincial state to the north of Anseba town in Afar, and within 30km of the border with Tigray to the south of Anseba town in Afar.

The Ethiopian Government frequently restricts or shuts down the internet and other phone services during and after civil unrest, limiting access to U.S. Embassy consular services. The U.S. Embassy cannot provide emergency assistance to citizens outside Addis Ababa.

There is an ongoing threat of terrorism across Ethiopia. Westerners may be targeted, with attacks potentially occurring at religious events, public holidays, or other gatherings. These attacks can be indiscriminate and may affect areas frequented by foreign nationals.

If you are traveling from a country with confirmed cases of Mpox or a country named by the Ethiopian Civil Aviation Authority, you may be asked to complete a Travelers Health Screening form. If you have symptoms, you could be required to undergo testing or treatment.

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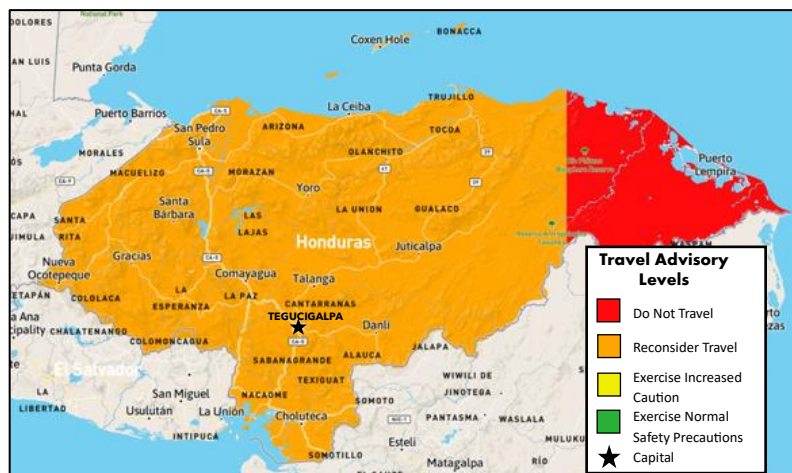
Honduras

Risk Level: **Extreme**

Country Overview:

The security situation in Honduras is hazardous, with a specific part of the country being extremely unsafe. It is advised that travel to Honduras be reconsidered due to the high crime rate. There is a heightened risk to personal safety and security because of violent crimes like homicide and armed robbery.

There has been a sharp increase in cases of dengue fever in Honduras, particularly in the departments of Cortés, Yoro, Olancho, and Santa Bárbara. Travelers should monitor local media for updates.



Gracias a Dios is an isolated region with high criminal activity and drug trafficking levels. Government services are limited, and there is a low police and military presence. It is advised to avoid all travel to the Gracias a Dios Department and limit all travel to the rest of the country unless it's essential.

The U.S. Embassy has received information regarding a potential mass shooting threat in Tegucigalpa on May 6 and again on May 16. The locations identified as possible targets include Elliot Dover Christian School, the Government Civic Center, and an unidentified shopping mall. U.S. citizens are strongly advised to avoid these areas.

Travelers need a visa to travel to Honduras. However, if you are a cruise ship passenger, you can enter Honduras with a "short pass." This pass permits you to disembark while the ship is docked in Honduras (usually for less than a day). You will need a visa to stay in Honduras beyond the docking hours.

Upon arrival, you will receive a 30-day visit entry stamp in your passport. It's essential to ensure that the border control officer stamps your passport, as failing to do so may result in a fine. If your passport is not stamped, please return to the immigration desk or visit the National Institute of Migration in Tegucigalpa as soon as possible. If you wish to extend your stay, you can apply at an immigration office.

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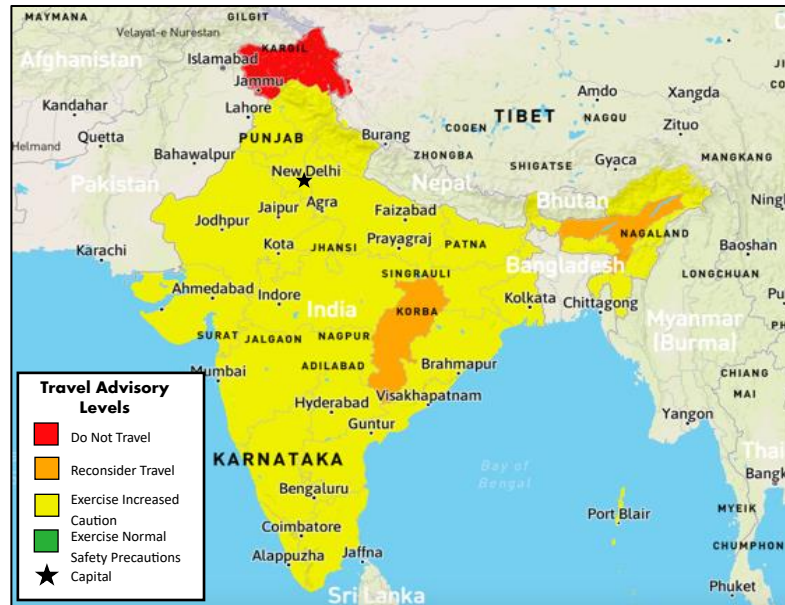
India

Risk Level: **Moderate**

Country Overview:

The security situation in some parts of India is hazardous, with specific areas of the country being extremely unsafe. It is advised to exercise increased caution in India due to crime and terrorism. There is an overall moderate risk to personal safety and security because of terrorist and insurgent activity, civil unrest, the potential for armed conflict, and violent crime, such as sexual assault.

Since the Indian Government's constitutional change that altered Jammu and Kashmir's internal political status, the region has seen regular protest action and political violence. An increased security presence is in place due to frequent terrorist attacks in the area. The country is experiencing heightened religious tensions between Hindus and Muslims. The rising Hindu nationalism within the ruling BJP party has seen frequent incidents of anti-Muslim hate crimes that authorities have ignored or downplayed.



On May 7th, India launched missiles into Pakistan-administered Kashmir. This led to 3 days of fighting between the two countries before a ceasefire was declared on May 10th.

Ethnic clashes occur frequently, prompting authorities to implement restrictions, including curfews, in affected areas. These incidents often result in disruptions or suspensions of transportation services and internet access.

It is advised to avoid all travel to Jammu and Kashmir (except the Ladakh region) and the India-Pakistan border. The Wagah-Attari border is closed. Limiting all but essential trips to the Northeastern states (Assam, except Guwahati, Nagaland, and Manipur), Chhattisgarh, and border areas of neighboring states is also advised.

Possessing or using satellite phones and GPS devices in India without a valid license is illegal and may result in fines, arrest, or confiscation. This applies even to transit passengers and may include other satellite-enabled devices. Several foreign nationals have been detained for violations. Travelers should obtain a license from the Indian Department of Telecommunications before arrival.

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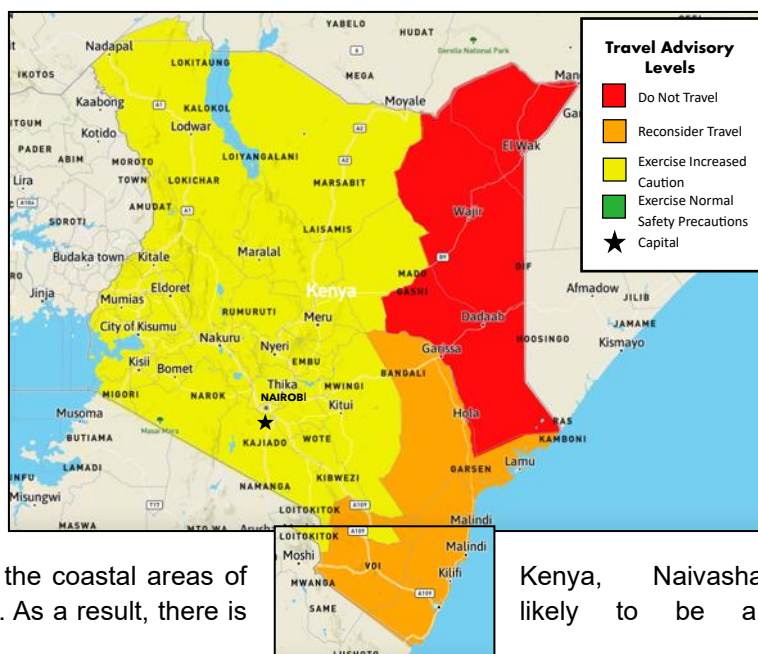
Kenya

Risk Level: **Moderate**

Country Overview:

In some areas of Kenya, the security situation is hazardous, with specific parts of the country being extremely unsafe. It is advised to exercise increased caution in Kenya due to terrorism, health issues, and crime. There is an overall moderate risk to personal safety and security because of terrorist attacks and violent crimes, such as armed carjacking, mugging, home invasion, and kidnapping.

The U.S. State Department has warned that credible information indicates that extremists in Nairobi, the coastal areas of and Nanyuki may target Westerners. As a result, there is an increase in visible security services.



Kenya, Naivasha, likely to be an

Cholera cases have also been detected in Narok, Kajiado, Garissa, and Machakos counties. Travelers are advised to monitor the latest updates from the World Health Organization.

Travelers should be aware that the political opposition has organized anti-government demonstrations in recent months, which could resume without prior notice. Recent protests turned violent, with protestors clashing with police, resulting in deaths and injuries. Travelers are advised to avoid large gatherings and monitor local media for updates.

As of November 4, 2024, travelers are advised to reconsider travel: within 60 km of the Kenya-Somalia border, Eastern Garissa County (up to 20 km northwest of the A3 road) including Boni National Reserve, Mandera County (excluding Mandera West sub-county), Lamu County (excluding Lamu Island and Manda Island), Tana River County north of the Tana River (up to 20 km northwest of the A3 road) and within 15 km of the east coast between the Tana River and Galana River.

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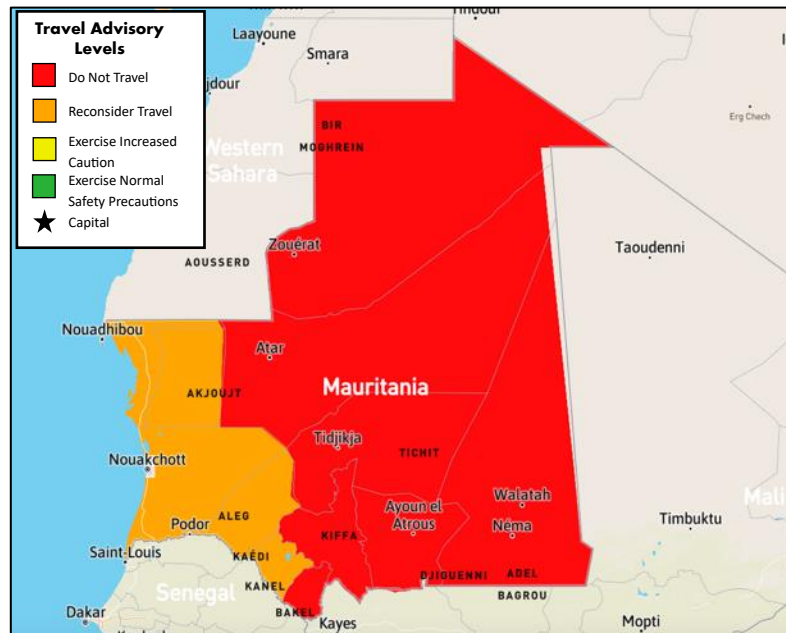
Mauritania

Risk Level: **Moderate**

Country Overview:

The security situation in Mauritania is highly volatile, and certain areas of the country are extremely unsafe. It is advised that you reconsider traveling to Mauritania due to crime and terrorism. There is a high risk to personal safety and security because of activities by terrorist groups and violent crimes, such as mugging, armed robbery, kidnapping, rape, and assault.

It is advised to avoid all travel to parts of Tagant, Adrar, Gorgol, Dakhlet Nouadhibou, and within 25 km of the Malian border and to defer all but essential travel to within 25 km of the Western Sahara border.



The Government of Mauritania designates certain areas off-limits to foreigners and most Mauritians. These "No Movement Zones" are hazardous due to their proximity to Mali, where armed groups engaged in an active insurgency carry out cross-border attacks into Mauritania.

Demonstrations can happen at any time in Nouakchott. Travelers must avoid political gatherings and demonstrations and be sure to follow the advice of local authorities and security forces. Travelers should also maintain adequate supply of non-perishable food and water.

The U.S. government cannot provide emergency services to U.S. citizens in Mauritania, as U.S. government employees must obtain special authorization to travel outside Nouakchott.

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Mexico

Risk Level: **Moderate**

Country Overview:

The security situation in some parts of Mexico is hazardous, with specific areas of the country being extremely unsafe. There is a high risk to personal safety and security in certain areas because of widespread violent crime, such as homicide, kidnapping, carjacking, and robbery.

It is advised to avoid all travel to the following states:

Colima, Guerrero, Michoacán, Sinaloa, Tamaulipas, and Zacatecas. Limit all but essential trips to Baja California, Guanajuato, Chihuahua, Coahuila, Durango, Jalisco, Morelos, Nayarit, Nuevo Leon State, San Luis Potosi State, Sonora State, Zacatecas State, and travel on Federal Highway 199 (Carretera Federal 199) between Rancho Nuevo (just outside San Cristobal de las Casas) and Palenque. Violent crimes are widespread, and armed criminal groups have targeted and robbed commercial vessels, oil platforms, and offshore supply vessels in the Bay of Campeche. It is advised to limit all but essential travel within 40 km (25 miles) of the Guatemalan border up to and including the border crossing at Gracias a Dios.

Protest activity is common in major urban areas. Travelers should avoid all demonstrations and exercise heightened caution near large gatherings, as these can become unpredictable. It is important to follow the guidance of local authorities at all times. Additionally, incidents of gang-related violence have been reported in popular tourist destinations, including Cancún and nearby areas. Visitors are strongly advised to remain vigilant and maintain a high level of situational awareness throughout their stay.

Mexico's hurricane season runs from June to November. During tropical storms and hurricanes, flooding and landslides can occur hundreds of miles from the storm's center and even after the storm has passed.



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Niger

Risk Level: **Extreme**

Country Overview:

The security situation in Niger is hazardous, with large parts of the country being extremely unsafe. It is advised to reconsider travel to Niger due to crime and terrorism. There is a high risk to personal safety and security because of terrorist attacks, kidnapping threats, and violent crimes, such as armed robbery.

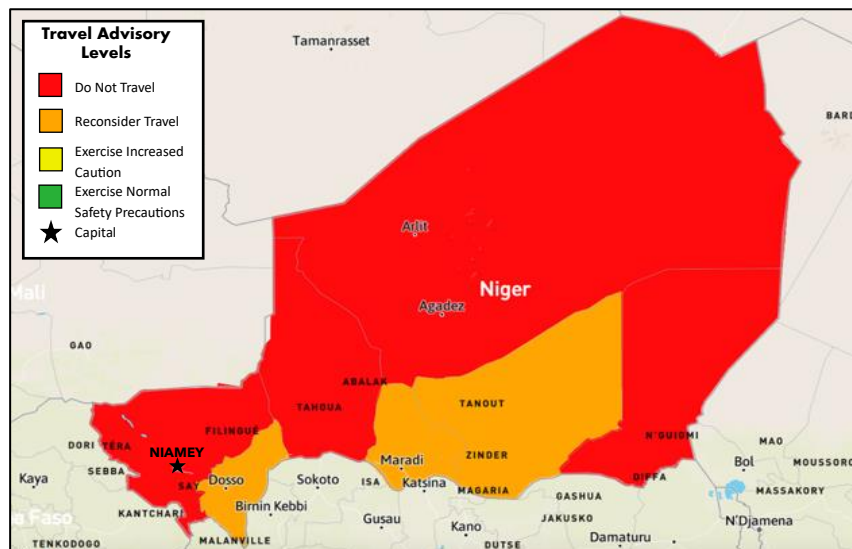
On July 26, 2023, the military staged a coup in Niamey. General

Abdourahmane Tchiani declared himself the new leader of Niger. There is a heightened military presence near government buildings, including at the Presidential Palace on Boulevard de la République. Land and air borders remain closed. The situation remains volatile and could escalate without warning. Tensions are escalating between Niger's new military regime and the West African regional bloc ECOWAS. Travelers are advised to avoid all travel to Niger.

It is advised not to travel at all to the following parts of Niger: all areas of the country north of the city of Abalak, the province of Agadez, Tahoua province, Tillabéri province north of Niamey; areas within 40km of the border with Nigeria in Diffa, Zinder, and Maradi provinces; and the Parc du W, plus the contiguous Dosso and Tamou hunting zones. It is further advised to limit all but essential travel to the rest of Niger, including the capital city Niamey.

It is advised to avoid crossing the River Niger on foot at any time. Although the Nigerien airspace has reopened, disruptions to commercial flights from Niamey's Diori International Airport can occur at short notice. If there is serious violence, unrest, or a deterioration in the security situation, it could be difficult to leave safely.

The U.S. government cannot provide emergency services to U.S. citizens in remote and rural areas, as U.S. government employees must obtain special authorization to travel outside of the capital.



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Nigeria

Risk Level: **Extreme**

Country Overview:

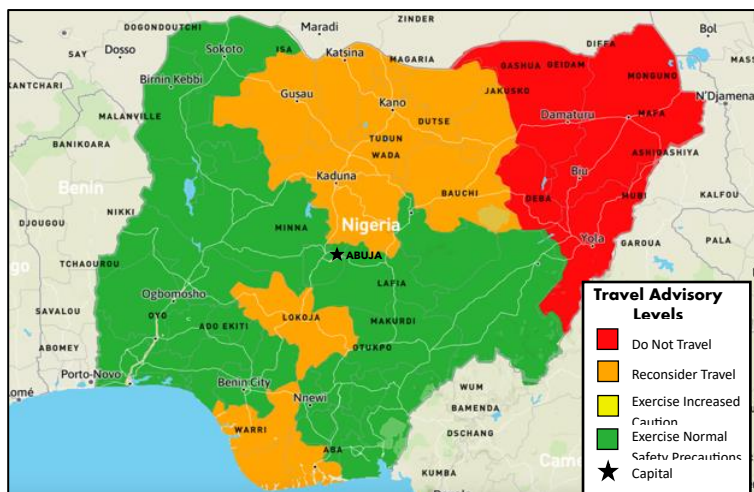
The security situation in Nigeria is hazardous, and specific parts of the country are incredibly unsafe. It is advised to reconsider travel to Nigeria due to the risk of crime, terrorism, and piracy. There is a high risk to personal safety and security because of the threat posed by extremist organizations, kidnappings, and violent crimes, such as armed robbery, assault, carjacking, and rape.

The risk of kidnappings in Nigeria, particularly in the northern and Middle Belt states, remains high. Gangs and unidentified individuals have carried out most of these attacks, but Boko Haram militants were behind some of them in northeast Nigeria. Even though the kidnappings often end without bloodshed once a ransom is paid, these attacks can result in injuries and fatalities. Criminal groups usually fire indiscriminately at vehicles to stop them. Reconsider overland travel across the country until further notice due to an ongoing spike in kidnapping-for-ransom and bandit attacks.

Militant groups launched attacks targeting oil and gas infrastructure in the Niger Delta region, with the area's risk of robbery, criminality, and kidnapping remaining high.

The country experiences sporadic but widespread public demonstrations, notably in major urban centers, such as the capital, Abuja. These events have led to significant disruptions, reports of violence, and the deployment of tear gas by security forces in various locations. Travelers should continue to exercise caution, avoid traveling after dark, steer clear of large crowds, and stay updated through local media.

It is advised to avoid travel to Borno State, Kaduna State, Katsina State, Zamfara State, Yobe State, Adamawa State, Gombe State, the riverine areas of Delta, Bayelsa, Rivers, Akwa Ibom, and the Cross River States; and within 20km of the border with Niger in Zamfara State. It is also advised to limit all but essential travel to Bauchi State; Kano State; Jigawa State; Sokoto State; Abia State; Plateau State; Taraba State; Kogi State; Imo State; within 20km of the border with Niger in Sokoto and Kebbi States; non-riverine areas of Delta, Bayelsa and Rivers States.



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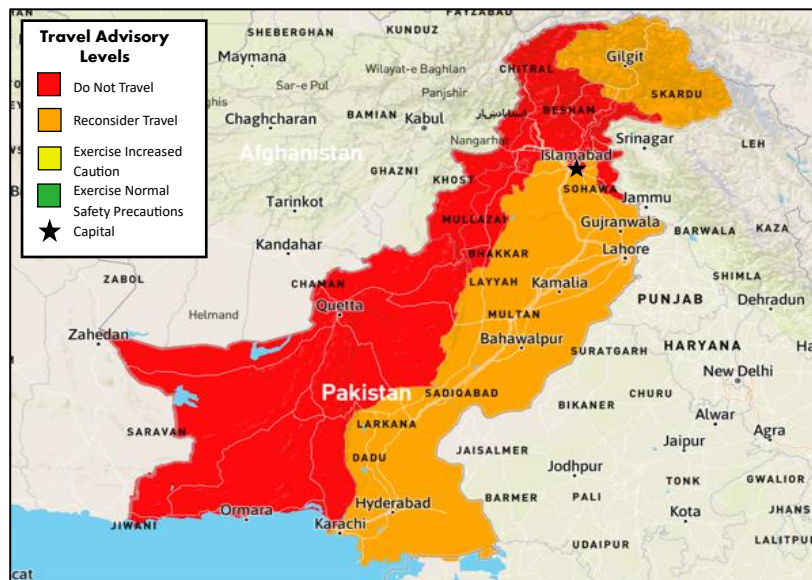


Pakistan

Risk Level: **Extreme**

Country Overview:

The security situation in Pakistan is hazardous, and a significant part of the country is exceptionally unsafe. It is advised to reconsider travel to Pakistan due to terrorism. There is a high risk to personal safety and security due to terrorist attacks. Political demonstrations often become violent. Travelers should continue to exercise caution, monitor news reports, and follow the advice of local authorities.



The U.S. Bureau of Consular Affairs advises against travel to specific areas, including within 10 miles of the Pakistan-Afghanistan border, 10 miles of the Line of Control, most regions of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Province, and all of Balochistan Province, within 5 miles of the international border between Pakistan and India. The Wagah border crossing is closed. Tensions are heightened amid regional conflicts, such as Israel's actions in Gaza.

Terrorists may retaliate and attack with little or no warning, targeting transportation hubs, markets, shopping malls, military installations, airports, universities, tourist locations, schools, hospitals, places of worship, and government facilities. Terrorists have targeted U.S. diplomats and diplomatic facilities in the past.

On May 7th, India launched missiles into Pakistan-administered Kashmir. This led to 3 days of fighting between the two countries before a ceasefire was declared on May 10th.

Crime rates are high, particularly on public transportation and in densely populated areas. Be cautious when moving around urban areas at night, especially on foot, as foreigners have been targeted in the past. There is an active black market for forged and stolen passports, as well as credit card fraud and similar scams. Travelers are advised to take safety precautions, maintain a low profile, and select accommodations carefully.

Due to the security environment, the U.S. government is restricted from providing emergency services to U.S. citizens in Pakistan. Air pollution poses a significant health risk in Pakistan, particularly during the winter months from October to February. The Punjab region, especially Lahore, is among the most severely affected areas.

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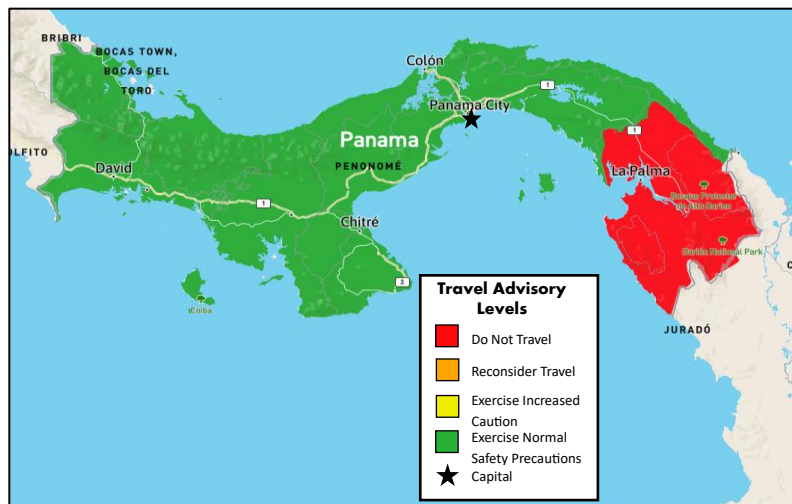
Panama

Risk Level: **Moderate**

Country Overview:

The security situation in Panama is relatively safe. However, the border region with Colombia is extremely risky due to the presence of criminal elements and the operation of drug and human trafficking networks. Moreover, emergency response and consular assistance are limited in some areas. Overall, travelers should exercise standard precautions in Panama.

It is advised to avoid all travel to parts of the Darién Region, Mosquito Gulf, 10 miles of the coastline from Boca de Rio, Chiriqui to Cocle del Norte, all areas south of Jaque to Manene to Yaviza to Lajas Blancas cities to the Colombian border, the city of Lajas Blancas, and the city of El Salto. If you plan to travel to Darien province, you are advised to do so only with an organized group and to destinations under the surveillance of the Panamanian police.



On May 27, the Panamanian Government declared a state of emergency in Bocas del Toro province due to continued strikes and protests. If you are in the area, avoid protest sites and stay informed about any new developments from local authorities. While most demonstrations are non-violent, the Panamanian National Police have used tear gas and riot control munitions in response to protests, mainly when roadways are blocked, or aggression is used against the police. Panama City, Colon, and Chiriqui provinces have the highest crime rates. Common crimes include shootings, home invasions, sexual assault, armed robberies, muggings, and thefts. Protests can be unpredictable, occur at short notice, and escalate quickly. Avoid protests and demonstrations, monitor local media, and follow advice from local authorities. Avoid traveling around protest-affected areas at night.

Protests often involve informal roadblocks and can affect access to the border crossing at Paso Canoas and international airports. Check your route and alternatives before traveling. Contact your airline to make alternative arrangements if you are unable to reach the airport for a planned flight.

The U.S. government's ability to provide emergency services to U.S. citizens in this region is limited. U.S. government personnel must obtain prior approval before traveling there and may face additional restrictions.

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Papua New Guinea

Risk Level: **Extreme**

Country Overview:

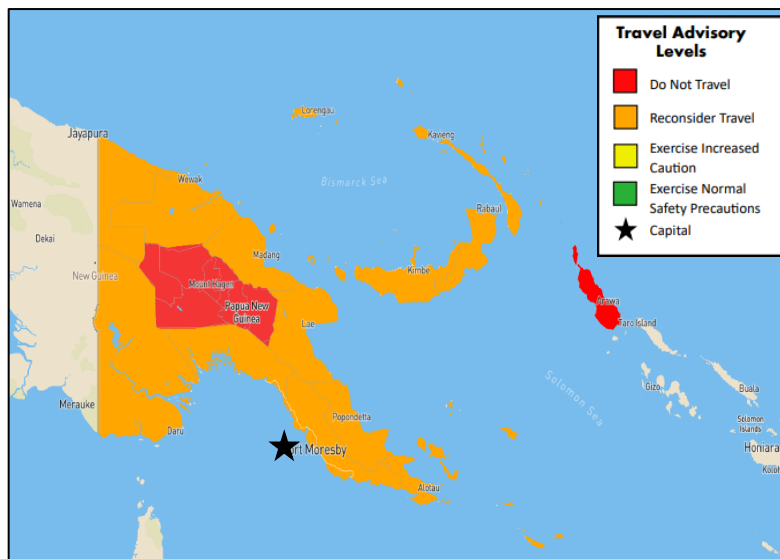
The security situation in Papua New Guinea is high risk, primarily due to crime and civil unrest. Travelers are strongly advised to reconsider their plans. Exercise increased caution due to the potential threat of unexploded ordnance (UXO) and volcanic activity. Seasonal natural disasters, such as tropical cyclones and flash flooding, are common in Papua New Guinea. Stay vigilant and monitor recent weather reports.

Law and order are often lacking in many parts of the country.

Though the risk of severe armed conflict or terrorist activity is low, crime is a serious concern in major cities, and parts of the country are unstable. Common violent crimes include sexual assault, carjackings, home invasions, and armed robberies. Outside of the capital of Port Moresby, police presence is limited, and officers may be unable to assist due to limited resources. Pay close attention to your safety, especially after dark, and watch local media for potential new security threats.

There is a high risk of tribal fighting in the Hela and Southern Highlands provinces. Tensions between communal or tribal groups can erupt without warning and quickly escalate. Travelers are advised to avoid the Highlands provinces and monitor local media for updates.

Due to civil unrest, it is advised to avoid all travel to the Highlands region, particularly the southern part of Bougainville and areas near the Panguna mine. Reconsider traveling to Rabaul in East New Britain Province, Kimbe in West New Britain Province, and Manam Island in Madang Province due to the high seismic and volcanic activity risk. There is still WWII unexploded ordinance, and travelers should exercise increased caution when traveling in remote areas, particularly along the Kokoda trail and at Milne Bay and Rabaul.



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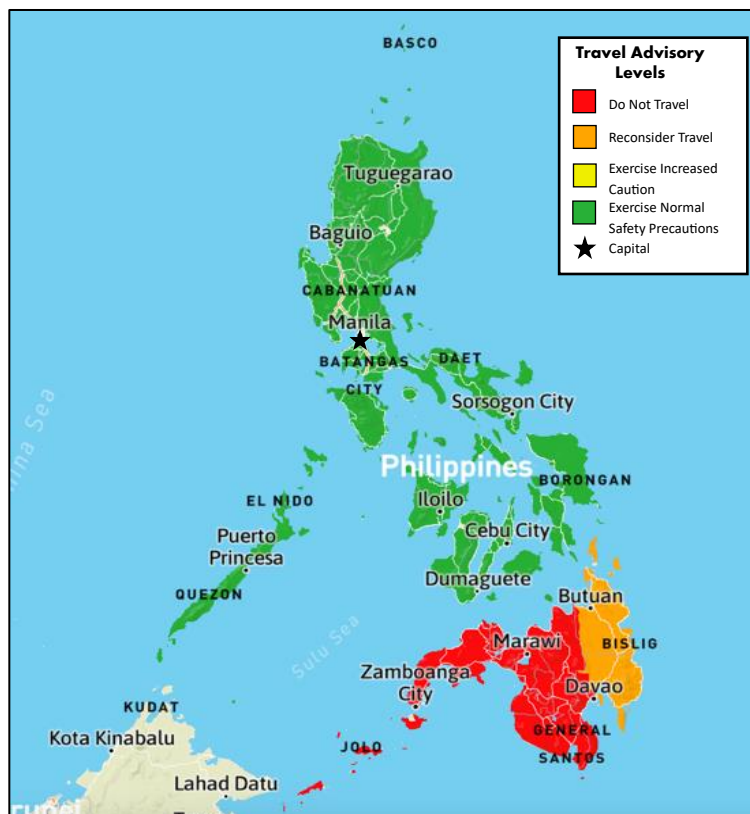


Philippines

Risk Level: **Moderate**

Country Overview:

In certain parts of the Philippines, the security situation can be hazardous with specific regions being considered particularly dangerous. Due to the dangers of criminal activity, terrorism, and civil unrest, travelers are urged to exercise caution anywhere in the nation. There is a high risk to personal safety and security because of occasional kidnappings, bombings, and widespread criminal activity, such as con games, pickpocketing, internet scams, and credit/ATM card fraud. Travelers should keep up to date with local information and avoid any demonstrations. The Philippines has seen a resurgence of the Poliovirus nationwide, and travelers are advised to consult their doctor before traveling. There have also been numerous cases of Dengue fever, which has now exceeded the epidemic threshold.



It is advised to avoid travelling to the western and central Mindanao and the Sulu Archipelago (including the southern Sulu Sea) because of terrorist activity and clashes between the military and insurgent groups. Limit all travel unless it is crucial to the remainder of Mindanao (excluding the Siargao Islands, Dinagat, and Camiguin) and the south of Cebu province, including the municipalities of Badian and Dalaguete, as well as the surrounding areas leading to Badian and Dalaguete, due to the threat of terrorism.

Terrorist and armed groups continue to organize plans for bombings, possible kidnappings, and other offensive maneuvers in the Philippines. Armed groups and terrorists may attack with little warning, targeting shopping malls, markets, tourist locations, and local government facilities.

The Philippines has many volcanoes that can explode at any time, therefore visitors are encouraged to exercise caution. Explosions of ash and steam could occur at any time. Before visiting regions close to volcanoes, always check the news and heed local advice. Steer clear of these areas during and right after periods of intense precipitation, as there is a much higher chance of landslides and lava flows.

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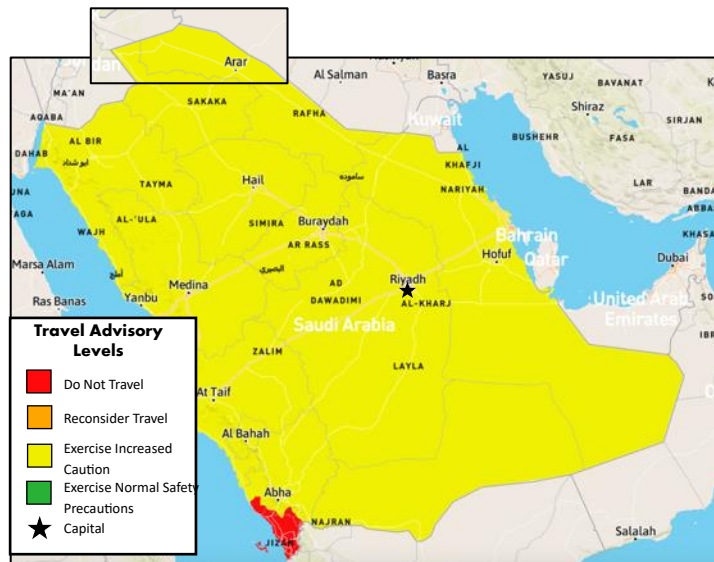


Saudi Arabia

Risk Level: **Moderate**

Country Overview:

In some parts of Saudi Arabia, the security situation is hazardous, with specific areas extremely unsafe. It is advised to exercise increased caution in Saudi Arabia due to terrorism and armed conflict. There is a moderate risk to personal safety and security overall because terrorist groups continue plotting possible attacks in the country. Rebel groups operating in Yemen have launched missiles, drones, and IEDs into Saudi Arabia, targeting populated areas and critical national infrastructure.



Avoid all travel within 50 miles of the Saudi-Yemen border. This includes the cities of Jizan, Najran, and Qatif in the Eastern Province, as well as their suburbs, including Awamiyah. Abha International Airport also falls under this avoid advisory.

Regional forces hostile to Saudi Arabia have conducted destructive and sometimes lethal attacks against various targets, including critical infrastructure, airports, military and energy facilities throughout the country, and targeting vessels in the Red Sea shipping lanes. The civilian airport in Abha, areas close to Jeddah, Riyadh, and Yanbu, military deployments in the south, and specific oil and gas establishments are all examples of recent targeted attacks.

The Islamic Republic of Iran (IRI) has supplied Yemen-based Houthis and other regional proxy groups with weapons, including missiles, rockets, and drones. Houthi militants continue to organize and conduct attacks against locations in Saudi Arabia. Violence associated with Iran-supported groups represents a significant threat. U.S. citizens living and working near military bases and critical civilian infrastructure, particularly near the border with Yemen and the Eastern Province, are at heightened risk of missile and drone attacks.

Travelers entering Mecca without a valid Hajj permit between May 23 and June 21 could receive a significant fine, deportation, and a ban from re-entering Saudi Arabia. The Hajj visa is issued for a specific period and is non-extendable.

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Tunisia

Risk Level: **Moderate**

Country Overview:

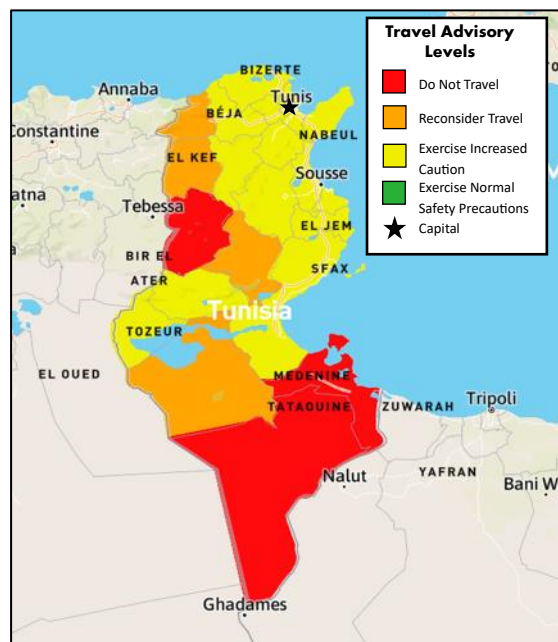
In some parts of Tunisia, the security situation is hazardous, with specific areas extremely unsafe. It is advised to exercise increased caution in Tunisia due to the risk of terrorism. Terrorist groups active in the country pose a significant threat to travelers in the region. Since November 24, 2015 a state of emergency has been in effect. The state of emergency has been extended numerous times, with the most recent extension lasting until December 31, 2025.

On July 26, 2022, President Saied was declared the victor in a constitutional referendum he had called for to solidify his hold on power. The victory enabled him to appoint judges and government ministers, as well as introduce new laws.

President Saied's tenure will run its course in October, and elections are planned for Tunisia this year. Attacks on journalists and the judiciary took place in Tunisia throughout his tenure, feeding concerns of a return to authoritarianism and a reversal of democracy. President Saied had also been in charge of a faltering economy, which may have an effect on the forthcoming election.

It is advised to avoid all travel to the Mount Chaambi National Park area, including the town of Kasserine and areas along the Libyan border, such as the city of Ben Guerdane and its immediate surrounding area, as well as the militarized zone south of the towns of El Borma and Dhehiba. It is also advised to limit all but essential travel to southern Tunisia, including the towns of Nefta, Douz, Medenine, and Zarzis, as well as the Governorates of Kef, Jendouba, and Sidi Bou Zid.

The U.S. government cannot provide emergency services to U.S. citizens in some areas of Tunisia.



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Turkey

Risk Level: **Moderate**

Country Overview:

The security situation in some parts of Turkey is hazardous, with specific areas considered highly unsafe. It is advised to reconsider travel to Turkey due to terrorism and arbitrary detentions.

There is a high risk to personal safety and security because terrorist groups continue to plot attacks in Turkey. Government security officials have detained individuals who appear primarily politically motivated on scant or secret grounds. Most episodes have occurred in the southeast regions of the country, such as Ankara and Istanbul.

The war in Gaza has increased regional tensions, leading to ongoing demonstrations in various parts of Turkey. Significant protests have occurred outside diplomatic facilities related to the conflict, particularly Israeli diplomatic missions in major cities such as Ankara and Istanbul. Travelers should avoid large public gatherings, and demonstrations and monitor local news.

It is advised to avoid all travel within 10km of the border of Syria, the city of Diyarbakir, Sirmak province, and Hakkari province.



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